The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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A Strange Botanical product with peculiar effects upon certain Diseases of the Kidneys, Rheumatism, etc.—Free to our Readers.

The discovery of Alkavis, the new product of the Kava-Kava shrub, or as botanists call it, *Piper Methysticum*, and the many accounts of its wonderful properties are exciting much attention in medical circles, as well as among sufferers from diseases of the Kidneys. Leading doctors now declare that Alkavis performs its remarkable cures by removing from the blood the uric acid, which is the cause of these diseases. Alkavis also acts directly upon the kidneys and urinary organs, soothing and healing them. It will be remembered that this new remedy was first found in use by the natives of India, where on the marshes of the Ganges River, they are peculiarly liable to diseases which clog up the kidneys and load the blood with the waste products of the system. Like the discovery of quinin, this remedy first found by ignorant natives, has proved a true specific for disease, and has become the most valuable known weapon in Kidney and Bladder disorders, Bright's disease, Rheumatism, Dropsy and allied ailments. It is, in short, a positive cure for all diseases caused by derangement of the Kidneys or by uric acid impurities in the blood. The best proof of the remarkable curative powers of Alkavis is seen in its phenomenal cures of many hopeless cases, when all other means had failed and death seemed at hand. We have records of many such cases, some of which we give below that our readers may correspond with them and learn further particulars if desired.

THE KAVA-KAVA SHRUB. (*Piper Methysticum.*)

In the New York *Weekly World*, of November 1st, the testimony of Rev. W. B. Moore, D.D., of Washington, D.C., was given, describing his years of suffering from Kidney disease and Rheumatism, and his rapid cure by Alkavis. Rev. Thomas Smith, the Methodist minister at Cobden, Ill., passed nearly one hundred gravel-stones after two weeks' use of Alkavis. Rev. John H. Watson, of Sunset, Tex., a minister of the gospel of thirty years' service, was struck down at his post of duty by Kidney disease. After hovering between life and death for two months, and all his doctors having failed, he took Alkavis, and was completely restored to health and strength, and is fulfilling his duties as minister of the gospel.

Rev. Albert B. Richardson, the well-known pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Hoboken, N. J., testifies that Alkavis restored his daughter to health, from Bright's disease, when her physician had almost lost hope of her recovery. He writes as follows:

HOBOKEN, N. J., October 5, 1896.

Gentlemen:—Several motives prompt me to send you this testimonial concerning your Kidney Cure Medicine, "Alkavis."

1st. Its wonderful effect upon my daughter, whose recovery from Bright's disease is largely due to the use of Alkavis. She was regarded by several prominent physicians, including specialists, as well-nigh incurable. I saw the notice of Alkavis in *The Christian Standard* and immediately procured a bottle. The effect was marvelous—hope was awakened. She continued taking it until now we regard her restored, all symptoms indicating recovery.

2d. We have recommended it to several, all of whom speak of it in terms of highest praise. Truly it is a wonderful discovery.

3d. We urge all who have any Kidney difficulty to try it at once. I bespeak for you an immense sale, as every one who uses it will become a voluntary advocate for it. Very truly,

ALBERT B. RICHARDSON, D.D.,
Pastor First Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Erasmus Marshall, a leading citizen of Wadena, Minn., 60 years old, writes that Alkavis cured him of Rheumatism and severe Kidney disease, from which he suffered 25 years.

Mrs. Sarah Vunk, of Edinboro, Pa., 65 years old, fifteen years a sufferer from Rheumatism and Kidney disease, was entirely cured in four weeks by Alkavis; Mrs. James Young, of Kent, Ohio, writes that she had tried six doctors in vain, that she was about to give up in despair, when she found Alkavis, and was promptly cured of Kidney disease. Mrs. Alice Evans, of Baltimore, Md.; Mrs. Mary A. Layman, of Neel, W. Va., twenty years a sufferer; Mrs. L. E. Copeland, Elk River, Minn.; and many other ladies join in testifying to the wonderful curative powers of Alkavis, in various forms of Kidney and allied diseases, and of other troublesome afflictions peculiar to womanhood.

Mrs. Sarah Vunk, Edinboro, Pa.

Perhaps the following letter from Rev. A. C. Darling, the well-known minister of the gospel at North Constantia, Oswego county, N. Y., will give the best view of the scope of this new botanical discovery. He writes:

"I have been troubled with kidney and kindred diseases for sixteen years and tried all I could get without relief. Two and a half years ago I was taken with a severe attack of la grippe which turned to pneumonia. At that time my Liver, Kidneys, Heart, and Urinary Organs all combined in what to me seemed their last attack. My confidence in man and medicine had gone. My hope had vanished and all that was left to me was a dreary life and certain death. At last I heard of Alkavis and as a last resort I commenced taking it. At this time I was using the vessel as often as sixteen times in one night, without sleep or rest. In a short, time to my astonishment, I could sleep all night as soundly as a baby, which I had not done in sixteen years before. What I know it has done for me, I firmly believe it will do for all who will give Alkavis a fair trial. I most gladly recommend Alkavis to all."

"Sincerely yours, (Rev.) A. C. DARLING."

Mr. R. C. Wood, a prominent attorney of Lowell, Ind., was cured of Rheumatism, Kidney and Bladder disease of ten years' standing by Alkavis. Mr. Wood describes himself as being in constant misery, often compelled to rise ten times during the night on account of weakness of the bladder. Alkavis cured him in a few weeks.

A prominent citizen of Laporte City, Iowa, Mr. William Butler, over 60 years of age, writes that Alkavis cured him of Dropsy and Kidney disease in less than one month, and at the end of thirty days he was actively engaged in his usual occupations, more vigorous than he had been for years.

Mr. Wm. Butler, Laporte City, Ia.

While Alkavis is well known in Europe, its only importers in this country so far are The Church Kidney Cure Company, No. 418 Fourth Avenue, New York. They are so anxious to introduce Alkavis and prove its great value that they will send free one Large Case, prepaid by mail, to Every Reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who suffers from any form of Kidney or Bladder disorder, Bright's disease, Rheumatism, Cystitis, Gravel, Female Complaints, and Irregularities, or other affliction due to improper action of the Kidneys or Urinary Organs. We advise all readers to send their names and address to the company and receive the Large Case by mail free. To prove its wonderful curative power, it is sent to you entirely free.

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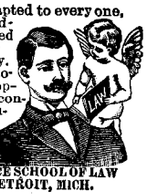
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The Standard Dictionary.

Questions Answered.

G. T. N., New York city: "'Bad English is the sure mark of ignorance or ill-breeding.' That is what meets our eyes as we enter the cars of the Elevated Railroad. If by 'Bad English' you mean the incorrect use of English words, surely you stand self-accused of either 'ignorance or ill-breeding.' What could be a greater misuse than the phrase 'Bad English' itself? What could be worse English than 'Bad English?'"

Haste to criticize without first making sure of your position has led you into mistake. The expression "Bad English" is entirely correct and according to good usage. Apparently you overlook the fact that the word "bad" has many different meanings, one of them being "containing errors or faults." Look at definition five of "bad" in the Standard Dictionary, and definition six in the Century Dictionary. In the latter you will find the very phrase to which you object used to illustrate the use of the word "bad" in the meaning given, also a quotation from Pope using the word in a similar way. You confound the English language as a whole with English sentences. It is possible to characterize the latter without involving any consideration of the former. To indicate the exact use of words, no dictionary can equal the Standard Dictionary. It was made by 250 experts in English.

H. E. G., Jersey City: "About a year ago I purchased a copy of Webster's International Dictionary on the representation that it contains all the words in the English language. The other day I had occasion to refer to it for the meaning of the word ***spellbinder,*** but was disappointed at not finding it there. Does the Funk & Wagnalls Standard Dictionary define the word? I am thinking of presenting a dictionary to my wife as a Christmas present, and would like your candid opinion of those now on the market."

The word ***spellbinder*** is defined by the Standard Dictionary, and came into use during the Presidential campaign of 1888. It means: "One who casts a spell over others, as an eloquent speaker." The word was applied to a class of political speakers whose addresses enthralled their audiences. It should have been recorded in Webster's International, but its omission does not surprise us, for the word is not even to be found in the Century. The Standard Dictionary is the most complete dictionary published. It contains, 175,000 more terms than the "International"; 195,000 more than "Worcester," and 75,000 more than the "Century."

The Standard is more distinctly the work of specialists in all departments than any other dictionary. It was compiled by 250 experts: no other dictionary was produced by a staff so large and so authoritative.

J. B. K., Lansing, Iowa: "Under the vocabulary word ***bye,*** I miss from the Standard the definition which designates an unpaired participant in a tournament or contest."

If "J. B. K." will turn to page 259 of his Standard Dictionary and look at the fourth definition under ***by*** 1. *n.*, he will find the definition he misses: "The condition of a person left without a competitor, as in tennis; an odd."

L. E. S., New York City: "I can not find an explanation of ***Gretna Green*** marriages in the Standard Dictionary. Is it there?"

If "L. E. S." will turn to page 2164, he will find ***Gretna Green*** defined in the first column. A Gretna Green marriage was usually an elopement. Gretna Green is a village in Dumfries county, Scotland, where many runaway marriages took place. These facts are all presented in the Standard Dictionary, of which the following has been said by T. G. Darling, of Auburn, N. Y.:

"I have used the Standard Dictionary (published by Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls) since its publication. I find myself increasingly satisfied with it, seldom referring to any other dictionary—and I very heartily commend it to those intending to purchase a new work of the kind."

It is possible that "L. E. S." has confused a Gretna Green marriage with a ***Fleet marriage,*** which the Standard defines on page 693, col. 3 Here is the definition:

> ***Fleet marriages,*** clandestine marriages formerly performed without banns or license by needy clergymen in Fleet Prison and recorded in the Fleet books: prohibited in 1753.

C. A. D., Allegheny, Pa.: "I should be pleased to have you give me some information as to the pronunciation of ***says,*** third person singular of ***say.*** I see the Standard leaves the pronunciation to be inferred."

The Standard Dictionary respells for pronunciation by the most carefully worked-out plan based on sound principles, and indorsed by the leading philologists and educators of the English-speaking world. Not one word of doubtful pronunciation is unpronounced. The word to which our correspondent refers is to be found pronounced on page 227 of the Standard Dictionary at line 90 in the second column. ***Says*** should be pronounced "sez" and *not* "sêz."

A. S. O., Rochester, N. Y.: "I do not find the abbreviations of ***LL.D.*** and ***Ph.D.*** in the list of abbreviations of your Standard Dictionary, and I notice that tho ***bona fide*** is written in the vocabulary without the double hyphen, in the definition it is printed as a compound word."

(1) The abbreviations ***LL.D.*** and ***Ph.D.*** are defined in the Standard Dictionary. Both are university degrees and are treated as such under ***degree*** on page 483, cols. 1-2.

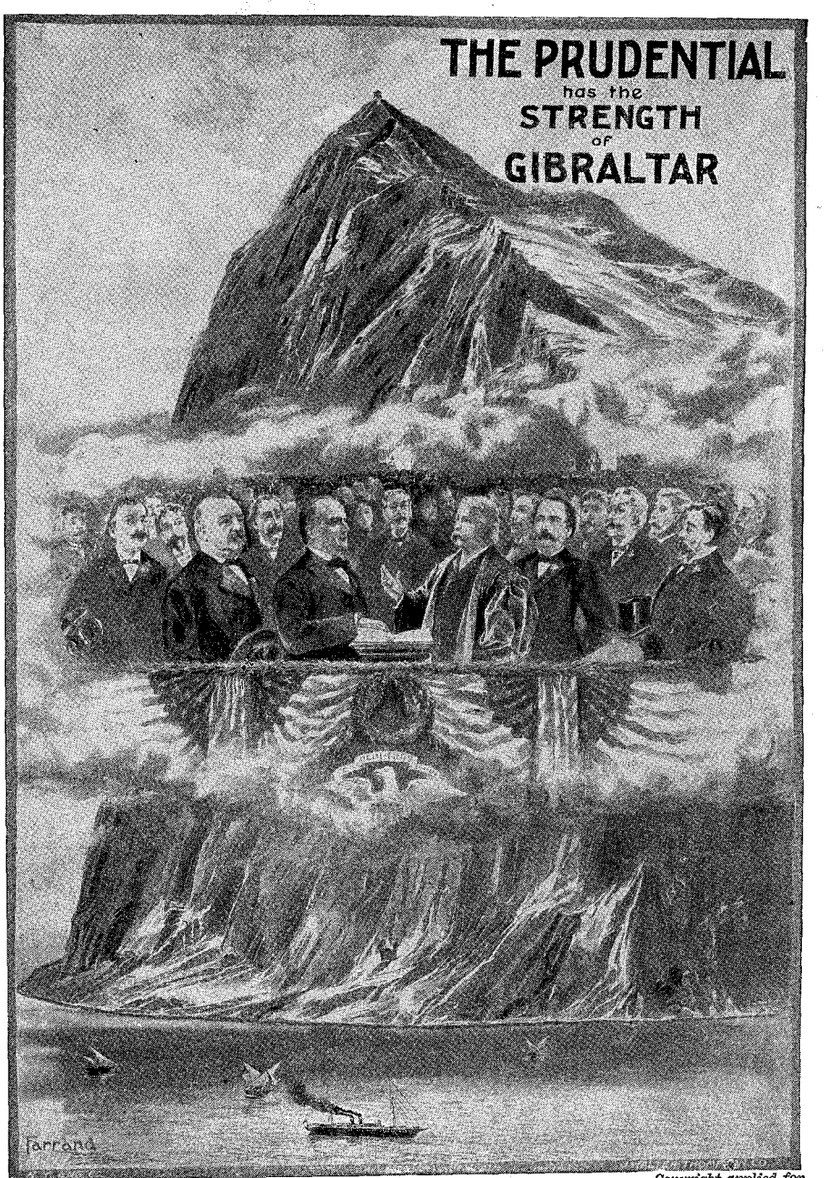
> **LL.D.** Doctor of Laws. Usually honorary, but sometimes conferred, in course, for advanced study.

> **Ph.D.** Doctor of Philosophy. Graduate study in almost any nontechnical branches, generally two or three years. Sometimes honorary.

The Standard Dictionary List of Degrees is the most complete, and, having been compiled by experts, is strictly reliable. (2) What to a casual observer would seem to be an error in the treatment of ***bona fide*** is absolutely correct. Had "A. S. O." read the Standard's definition carefully, he would have observed that the words emphasized in the definition quoted below justify the insertion of a double hyphen in the phrase:

> **bo na fide**, bōnə fīˈdē *or* fīˈdē. [L.] In good faith; without deceit: ***used in English as a compound adjective:*** as, *bonafide* transactions.
>
> The only house in the world of which I am *bonafide* owner.—D. G. MITCHELL. *Reveries of a Bachelor*, intro., p. 16. [s. '51.]
>
> [L., with good faith, < *bonus*, good, + *fides*, faith.]

The Standard Dictionary is the only dictionary that has adopted a systematic method of compounding words, and the instance referred to above shows the value of the method.



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The Literary Digest

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

PRESIDENT McKINLEY'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

PRESIDENT McKINLEY'S inaugural address, of less than 4,000 words, carefully outlines a policy in favor of protective tariff legislation at an extra session of Congress, in favor of a currency commission and international bimetalism, and in favor of peace with foreign nations, arbitration with England included. Currency reform is given first place in the address, but with the explicit statement that adequate revenue is first in importance. Economy in expenditures is urged, especially in the present period of depression; but it is declared that revenue should be adequate to meet enlarged needs, retire the public debt, and provide liberal pensions. "Between more loans and more revenue," says President McKinley, "there ought to be but one opinion—we should have more revenue, and that without delay, hindrance, or postponement." Mr. McKinley promises constant endeavor to secure international bimetalism by cooperation with other powers, and pledges meanwhile to keep the silver coined at par with gold by every resource at his command.

Concerning currency revision he says:

"Our financial system needs some revision; our money is all good now, but its value must not further be threatened—it should all be put upon an enduring basis, not subject to easy attack, nor its stability to doubt or dispute. Our currency should continue under the supervision of the Government.

"The several forms of our paper money offer, in my judgment, a constant embarrassment to the Government and a safe balance in the Treasury. Therefore I believe it necessary to devise a system which, without diminishing the circulating medium or offering a premium for its contraction, will present a remedy for these arrangements, which, temporary in their nature, might well in the years of our prosperity have been displaced by wiser provisions. With adequate revenue secured, but not until then, we can enter upon such changes in our finance laws as will, while insuring safety and volume to our money, no longer impose upon the Government the necessity of maintaining so large a gold reserve, with its attendant and inevitable temptations to speculation.

"Most of our financial laws are the outgrowth of experience and trial and should not be amended without investigation and demonstration of the wisdom of the proposed changes. We must be both 'sure we are right' and 'make haste slowly.' If, therefore, Congress in its wisdom shall deem it expedient to create a commission to take under early consideration the revision of our coinage, banking, and currency laws, and give them that exhaustive, careful, and dispassionate examination that their importance demands, I shall cordially concur in such action. If such power is vested in the President, it is my purpose to appoint a commission of prominent well-informed citizens of different parties, who will command public confidence both on account of their ability and special fitness for the work. Business experience and public training may thus be combined, and the patriotic zeal of the friends of the country be so directed that such a report will be made as to receive the support of all parties, and our finances cease to be the subject of mere partizan contention. The experiment is, at all events, worth a trial, and, in my opinion, it can but prove beneficial to the entire country. The question of international bimetalism will have early and earnest attention. It will be my constant endeavor to secure it by cooperation with the other great commercial powers of the world. Until that condition is realized when the parity between our gold and silver money springs from and is supported by the relative value of the two metals, the value of the silver already coined, and of that which may hereafter be coined, must be kept constantly at par with gold by every resource at our command. The credit of the Government, the integrity of its currency, and the inviolability of its obligations must be preserved. This was the commanding verdict of the people and it will not be unheeded."

THE THREE GRACES OF THE INAUGURATION CEREMONIES.
—*The Times-Herald, Chicago.*

Mr. McKinley holds that tariff on imports is the settled policy of the Government in raising the bulk of revenue. To quote again from his address:

"The people have declared that such legislation should be had as will give ample protection and encouragement to the industries and the development of our country. It is, therefore, earnestly hoped and expected that Congress will, at the earliest practicable moment, enact revenue legislation that shall be fair, reasonable, conservative, and just, and which, while supplying sufficient revenue for public purposes, will still be generally beneficial and helpful to every section and every enterprise of the people. To this policy we are all, of whatever party, firmly bound by the voice of the people—a power vastly more potential than the expression of any political platform.

"The paramount duty of Congress is to stop deficiencies by the restoration of that protective legislation which has always been the firmest prop of the Treasury. The passage of such a law or laws would strengthen the credit of the Government, both at home and abroad, and go far toward stopping the drain upon the gold

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reserve held for the redemption of our currency which has been heavy and well-nigh constant for several years.

"In the revision of the tariff special attention should be given to the reenactment and extension of the reciprocity principle of the law of 1890, under which so great a stimulus was given to our foreign trade in new and advantageous markets, for our surplus agricultural and manufactured products."

In calling an extra session of Congress to begin March 15, Mr. McKinley argues that the condition of the public treasury demands the immediate consideration of the body that has power to provide revenues. He does not sympathize with the sentiment that Congress in session is dangerous to our business interests. He thinks there could be no better time to put the Government upon a sound financial and economic basis than now, as Congress will not be deprived, by lapse of time, of the inspiration of the popular will, and the country will not be deprived of the corresponding benefits. Since Congressional elections are nearly two years distant, he believes that politics will be less likely to distract Congressmen from calm and patriotic treatment of the problem:

"Our fellow citizens who may disagree with us upon the character of this legislation prefer to have the question settled now, even against their preconceived views—and perhaps settled so reasonably, as I trust and believe it will be, as to insure great permanence—than to have further uncertainty menacing the varied business interests of the United States. Again, whatever action Congress may take will be given a fair opportunity for trial before the people are called to pass judgment on it, and this I consider a great essential to the rightful and lasting settlement of the question."

The address touches upon the love of the people for their free institutions; insists that equality of rights must prevail and our laws be always and everywhere respected and obeyed, declares that lynchings must not be tolerated; asserts that "the preservation of public order, the right of discussion, the integrity of our courts, and the orderly administration of justice must continue forever the rock of safety upon which our Government securely rests," and that the late election emphasizes the fact that we are "both a law-respecting and a law-abiding people, not easily swerved from the path of patriotism and honor." President McKinley advocates prohibition of vicious and illiterate immigration, favors the restoration of a merchant marine, and closes his address with grateful references to the disappearance of sectionalism between the North and South. We quote further from President McKinley's utterances on trusts, and on foreign relations:

"Immunity should be granted to none who violate the laws, whether individuals, corporations, or communities, and as the Constitution imposes upon the President the duty of both its own execution and of the statutes enacted in pursuance of its provisions, I shall endeavor carefully to carry them into effect. The declaration of the party now restored to power has been in the past that of 'opposition to all combinations of capital organized in trusts, or otherwise, to control arbitrarily the condition of trade among our citizens,' and it has supported 'such legislation as will prevent the execution of all schemes to oppress the people by undue charges on their supplies, or by unjust rates for the transportation of their products to market.' This purpose will be steadily pursued, both by the enforcement of the laws now in existence and the recommendation and support of such new statutes as may be necessary to carry it into effect."

"It has been the policy of the United States since the foundation of the Government to cultivate relations of peace and amity with all the nations of the world, and this accords with my conception of our duty now. We have cherished the policy of non-interference with the affairs of foreign governments, wisely inaugurated by Washington, keeping ourselves free from entanglement either as allies or foes, content to leave undisturbed with them the settlement of their own domestic concerns. It will be our aim to pursue a firm and dignified foreign policy, which shall be just, impartial, ever watchful of our national honor, and always insisting upon the enforcement of the lawful rights of American citizens everywhere. Our diplomacy should seek nothing more, and accept nothing less than is due us. We want no wars of conquest; we must avoid the temptation of territorial aggression. War should never be entered upon until every agency of peace has failed; peace is preferable to war in almost every contingency. . . .

"Arbitration is the true method of settlement of international as well as local or individual difference. It was recognized as the best means of adjustment of differences between employers and employees by the Forty-ninth Congress, in 1886, and its application was extended to our diplomatic relations by the unanimous concurrence of the Senate and House of the Fifty-first Congress in 1890. The latter resolution was accepted as the basis of negotiations with us by the British House of Commons in 1893, and upon our invitation a treaty of arbitration between the United States and Great Britain was signed at Washington and transmitted to the Senate for its ratification in January last. Since this treaty is clearly the result of our own initiative; since it has been recognized as the leading feature of our foreign policy throughout our entire national history—the adjustment of difficulties by judicial methods rather than by force of arms—and since it presents to the world the glorious example of reason and peace, not passion and war, controlling the relations between two of the greatest nations of the world, an example certain to be followed by others, I respectfully urge the early action of the Senate thereon, not merely as a matter of policy, but as a duty to mankind. The importance and moral influence of the ratification of such a treaty can hardly be overestimated in the cause of advancing civilization. It may well engage the best thought of the statesmen and people of every country, and I can not but consider it fortunate that it was reserved to the United States to have the leadership in so grand a work."

Peace and Prosperity.—"No part of Mr. McKinley's inaugural will be more acceptable to the conservative men of this country than the brief but comprehensive reference to our foreign policy. . . . We do not know how the President's words will be construed by the firebrands in Congress. But they should reflect that Mr. McKinley comes direct from the people, and that his lofty advocacy of peace is in a sense the expression of the will of a vast majority of his fellow citizens. To all who have watched the progress of events at Washington with apprehension his utterances are a reassuring sign that under his Administration the government of this country will not forsake the policy of dignified self-control, upon which so much of its strength and influence depends. . . . McKinley spells peace as well as prosperity."—*The Times-Herald, (Ind. Rep.), Chicago.*

Commendable Except on the Tariff.—"Both the tone of the President's inaugural and his specific utterances are in the highest degree commendable. We must not be understood as indorsing what he says about the tariff. That is a matter of party policy on which we differ from him as much as ever, and in what we have to say we exclude that. With this reservation we cannot too highly praise the spirit which he declares to be the animating purpose of his entry into office. First and foremost we place his hearty support of the arbitration treaty now pending in the Senate and his earnest recommendation that it be speedily ratified. In this particular the new President has even surpassed the expectations of the friends of the treaty."—*The Evening Post (Ind.), New York.*

"Mr. McKinley's inaugural address is admirable. Aside from his declaration on the subject of civil-service reform, which reads like it might be intended for several different things at the same time, his statements are very explicit and very firm in support of his party's pledges. The declarations on the money and tariff questions are open only to partizan criticism—the objection of those who disagree with the Republican policy. Outside of those questions his positions will meet no open criticism except they may be recalled in case of his failure to hold to them in practise."—*The Sentinel (Dem.), Indianapolis.*

Persuasive in Tone.—"It is a conspicuous observance of the counsel, 'To thine own self be true.' The people of this country have come to know our new President, and to have a clear idea of him. The inaugural is in conspicuous harmony with the popular conception of the man as a statesman. There is not the remotest suggestion of the demagog, nor the least weakening of infidelity to the political principles of which he is so conspicuous an exponent, yet from beginning to end he rises grandly above the level of mere partizan espousal of Republicanism. His tone is such that even his political opponents must feel, 'Almost thou persuadest me to be' a Republican."—*The Inter Ocean (Rep.), Chicago.*

"It is a clear, cogent, and impressive discussion of the conditions surrounding the country and the obligations growing out of them. There is nothing of narrow partizanship in its tone or its aims. It is broadly patriotic in its conception and treatment. Preeminently American in its inspiration, it addresses itself

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wholly to American interests from an American standpoint. It reveals throughout the profoundest solicitude for the renewed prosperity and contentment of the people, and plainly the one overmastering aspiration of the author is to lead the way in the consummation of that supreme object. A business Administration, devoted to business ends, quickening and expanding all business life—this is the keynote of the new Administration."—*The Press* (*Rep.*), *Philadelphia.*

"Probably no President ever before entered office of whom so much was expected as the people expect of President McKinley. This may be unjust to him. No Republican, no person of any political faith, should fail to see that the task of the new Administration is a gigantic one. It is easy to destroy and sometimes extremely difficult to rebuild; at best the process is usually slow. A rapid recovery now would be a magnificent vindication of the Republican Party and its great leader."—*The Times-Star* (*Rep.*), *Cincinnati, Ohio.*

"President McKinley's inaugural contains three mild and pleasant surprises. He says that no rule or custom shall shield any employee who is inefficient, incompetent, or unworthy, and urges early action on the arbitration treaty. Surprise No. 3 is the explicit recommendation that a commission be created to revise our currency laws. This recommendation, which has the place of honor in the message, will strengthen the confidence of business men in the new President."—*The Sentinel* (*Rep.*), *Milwaukee.*

"President McKinley's inaugural address might have been delivered by a Democrat as appropriately as by a Republican, but for the allusions to the principle of protection in the tariff part in it. Even those allusions are not marked by the severity and narrowness of conventional protective utterances."—*The Eagle* (*Ind. Dem.*), *Brooklyn.*

Promises and the Party.—"The complications of Republicanism in politics, representing its interest in high tariff and rich corporations who benefit by import taxes; its identification with the gold standard, which means appreciating money and depreciating prices for products and commodities; its steady tramp toward centralization; its consistent support of the money power, and its uses of every legal agency to stamp out the attempts of the lower classes to insure their rights—all these entanglements neutralize any verbal expression of sympathy. Mr. McKinley has scattered through his inaugural various expressions showing his desire and purpose to enforce the rights equally of all classes. It is but fair to credit him with perfect sincerity under the emotions of the situation, when he was formally inducted the President of a nation wherein Lazarus infinitely outnumbers Dives. But facts are facts, and President McKinley can not struggle from the fetters of the party which elected him. That party, maugre all promises and blandishments, must stand by its more recent record."—*The Journal* (*Dem.*), *New York.*

AT CANTON—BREAKING HOME TIES.
—*The Post, Cincinnati.*

At Best a Disappointment.—"Mr. McKinley's inaugural address is at best a disappointment. Its reverent tone in the opening and conclusion is almost the only feature worthy of congratulation. In all else which deals with the great public questions now agitating the people Mr. McKinley's inaugural address is the most woful aggregation of platitudes that has ever emanated from an occupant of the White House. . . . Nothing stated in Mr. McKinley's inaugural address clears away any existing doubt concerning his financial policy. We know, what we knew before, that he is an extremely high-tariff man. We know, what we knew before, that he is an ardent straddler on the money question. We believe, what we believed before, that his Administration will be dominated by the gold power. But he might well have omitted all reference to the money question for anything he said on that subject. Or if he did not choose to dodge the question, he might have called attention to the fact that Lyman J. Gage would be his Secretary of the Treasury. He could have stopped there and the people would have known that he meant at least that his views on the money question should be thoroughly understood."—*The World-Herald* (*Dem.*), *Omaha.*

In Position to Try Almost Anything.—"What the government of McKinley will be we can not form any definite idea as yet, but it is scarcely possible for it to bring more disaster on the country than has occurred during the Cleveland rule. As for McKinley himself, he has preserved the same dignified silence since the election as before it, and it is impossible to form any certain or definite idea of the line of policy he will pursue. Nor is there any reason to believe that he is a man of the same obstinate disposition as Cleveland, with his mind so made up that it is impossible to move him a jot. It is probable that he will try to follow the line of policy which he believes is best suited to the conditions of the country, and that he is pledged or engaged to no particular course on any great national issue, but he is in a position to try almost anything."—*The Times-Democrat* (*Dem.*), *New Orleans.*

A Compromiser to be Tested.—"On the whole the inaugural address is what was looked for by those who have studied President McKinley's character and public life. He is essentially a compromiser, holding his politics subject to the varying drifts of the times. His troubles as President will commence when the attempt is made to translate his smoothly flowing generalities into positive law, subject to the rigid scrutiny of the people and the closer investigation of legislators. The new President's work is before him. His pleasing inaugural address in reality means nothing of a practical character. It is but the prelude to serious work, and will test his courage and firmness just as President Cleveland has been tested."—*The Post* (*Dem.*), *Pittsburg, Pa.*

"What the new President has to say about the return of prosperity is disappointing. His declaration that it will 'take time to restore prosperity' is a truism; but he and his followers have allowed the country at large to become imbued with the notion that the time has already been taken, and that prosperity has been stalking along just in the rear of the new Administration as it marched upon Washington. He would have done better to suppress his request for more time, no matter how strongly convinced he may be that it will be needed."—*The Free Press* (*Dem.*), *Detroit.*

"The Ohio Ephraim is joined to his idols. The events of the late campaigns have taught him nothing. He will have the support of the Democrats on the currency question so long as he stands by his declaration that the gold standard must be maintained. He will not have their support in his attempt to make prosperity by robbery."—*The Chronicle* (*Dem.*), *Chicago.*

The Liquor Question Tabooed.—"Comparing the address with the platform [adopted at St. Louis], it looks as tho the President had had the latter in hand when writing the former, and had taken up one after another the issues of the platform-revenue, protective tariff, reciprocity, merchant marine, currency, pensions, protection to American citizens abroad, immigration, civil service, free elections, lynchings, and arbitration. There is hardly a skip made until he comes to the last plank, the one on temperance and the rights of women. . . . *Then he skips.* No other political issue in the whole realm of politics has been considered by Mr. McKinley's church to be of enough moral importance to receive from the church any such specific recognition. But *the*

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very issue which his church selects for such recognition out of all political issues of the day is the very issue which the new President selects out of all those in the Republican platform as the one *not to be recognized* in his inaugural address! . . . *There is some reason for that silence.* What is it?"—*The Voice* (*Proh.*), *New York.*

Vice-President Hobart's Address.—"Vice-President Hobart's opening address to the Senate deserves a hearty expression of approval. While graceful in form, and appropriately modest and dignified, it contained a statement of opinion, and perhaps of purpose, which the country will be glad to read and which the Senate has no reason to resent. Mr. Hobart said:

"'It will be my constant effort to aid you, so far as I may, in all reasonable expedition of the business of the Senate, and I may be permitted to express the belief that such expedition is the hope of the country. All the interests of good government and the advancement toward a higher and better condition of things call for prompt and positive legislation at your hands. To obstruct the regular course of wise and prudent legislative action after the fullest and freest discussion is neither consistent with true Senatorial courtesy, conducive to the welfare of the people, nor in compliance with their just expectations.'

"No member of 'the deliberative branch' who is not suffering from an extreme case of supersensitiveness will discover in or between the lines of this paragraph anything more than a reasonable and becoming wish that the Senate shall perform its duty, and that its presiding officer may prove equal to the obligations and opportunities of his position. It does, indeed, suggest the need of a reversion from the recent disposition of the Senate to that which long prevailed, but for this no radical change of rules is necessarily required. The old forms of procedure do not impede patriotic action unless they are misemployed by members who are less intent on serving the country than they ought to be. The new Vice-President judged nobody. He simply set up a true standard, which it was not only his privilege, but his duty, to do."—*The Tribune* (*Rep.*), *New York.*

THE McKINLEY CABINET.

PRESIDENT McKINLEY'S completed cabinet appears to be generally considered a safe and conservative body of representative Republicans. The middle West secures the majority of representation, the Southern border States are accorded one member, and the Pacific coast has its first representative in a President's cabinet. It is interesting to notice that only two cabinet members are less than sixty years of age. Judge McKenna is fifty-four, Mr. Long fifty-nine; the ages of other members ranging from seventy-four to sixty-one years, making an average age of over sixty-two years. None of the cabinet members was born west of Ohio, and there is said to be but one college graduate in the list, academic education being the rule.

The selection of Senator Sherman for Secretary of State and Lyman J. Gage for Secretary of the Treasury furnished topics for this department of THE LITERARY DIGEST January 23 and February 13.

General Alger has been a prominent party leader for many years; has been conspicuously identified with the Grand Army of the Republic; has served as governor of Michigan, and brings to the War Department a notable record of service in the Civil War. Mr. Gary, Postmaster-General, is identified with numerous business interests in the State of Maryland, and has been a member of the Republican national committee for many years. Mr. Long, Secretary of the Navy, has been speaker of the Massachusetts legislature; he defeated General Butler for the governorship, and was twice reelected, and has been a member of Congress. Mr. McKenna is promoted to the Attorney-Generalship from a seat as United States circuit judge for the Ninth (Pacific slope) circuit. Mr. Wilson is a native of Scotland; served in the Forty-third and Forty-fourth Congresses, and is taken for the Department of Agriculture from a professorship in the Ames (Iowa) Agricultural College. Mr. Bliss, Secretary of the Interior, is the head of a prominent dry-goods firm in New York city; has been prominently identified with New York state politics for years, but has never taken public office before, altho he has served as a treasurer of the Republican national committee for several terms.

A Cabinet for Practical Work.—"The duties to which these men are called are to a large extent those for which they have especial training. Senator Sherman has been so long on the committee of foreign relations that he has little to learn about the duties of the high office which he accepts. Mr. Gage has distinguished himself by making a Chicago bank scarcely second in volume of legitimate business to any other in the country, and as President of the World's Fair displayed great executive ability. General Alger was a soldier of merit, and has been honored by his former comrades, and it would be difficult to suggest a man better qualified for the post of Secretary of Agriculture than the Professor of the Iowa College. Judge McKenna leaped into the front rank as a lawyer early in life, and has since won distinction as a judge. Governor Long, Mr. Gary, and Mr. Bliss possess business and executive abilities, and are believed to be equal to the new responsibilities they have assumed. It is a cabinet for practical work, and not mere parade. It is also a cabinet of warm and sincere friends of the President, and much will be expected of it in making the new Administration a success."—*The Tribune* (*Rep.*), *New York.*

Conscientious and Industrious Body.—"The three leading members of this cabinet need no introduction to the public. Mr. Sherman has had forty years' actual contact and experience with public affairs. Mr. Gage is known throughout the world of finance. General Alger knows what war is, and is an able administrator of business affairs. These are all men of sufficient prominence and experience to be judged by their records; and, using these records as a test, it is a safe inference that the McKinley cabinet policy will be marked by ability and conservatism. It will be a conscientious and industrious rather than a distinguished cabinet."—*The Record* (*Ind.*), *Chicago.*

"A man is not old at sixty, but he has lived long enough to learn wisdom and discretion. Mr. McKinley's advisers, therefore, ought to be, and doubtless are, men of ripe judgment, who understand the true interests of the country and who will be able to give to the President the benefit of wise counsel based upon the results of long experience and tempered with the conservatism which age usually brings to those who profit by the lessons of life. The new cabinet is not one which would, for instance, be carried away by a wave of jingoism, or which would yield to the noisy clamor of those who care most about party advantage and least about the public welfare."—*The Sun* (*Ind. Dem.*), *Baltimore.*

"In a sense Mr. McKinley's cabinet is very democratic. Not a single member of it seems to conceal himself under a cloak, each having freely exercised his right of private judgment. Every one seems to have an opinion of his own, and to have made no secret of it. How this curiously made-up body will get along is one of the most interesting mysteries of the season."—*The Globe*, (*Dem.*), *Boston.*

"President McKinley's cabinet is, perhaps, fairly representative, when it is remembered that its members are selected as much because of their geographical locations as of their ability."—*The Commercial Advertiser* (*Rep.*), *New York.*

"There is not an unknown man or an uncertain quantity among them. And the McKinley cabinet is one of strength, dignity, and power."—*The Herald* (*Ind.*), *Baltimore.*

McKinley and Gage against Sherman.—"It seems to be accepted on all sides that President McKinley referred to the greenbacks in this part of his inaugural address:

"'The several forms of our paper money offer, in my judgment, a constant embarrassment to the Government and a safe balance in the Treasury. Therefore I believe it necessary to devise a system which, without diminishing the circulating medium or offering a premium for its contraction, will present a remedy for those arrangements, which, temporary in their nature, might well in the years of our prosperity have been displaced by wiser provisions.'

"The only paper money 'arrangements' which were 'temporary in their nature' and which 'might well in the years of our prosperity have been displaced by wiser provisions' were the war issues of legal-tender notes.

"The President, in other words, is in accord with his Secretary of the Treasury on this important question. He agrees with Mr. Gage that the greenbacks should be retired. He consequently

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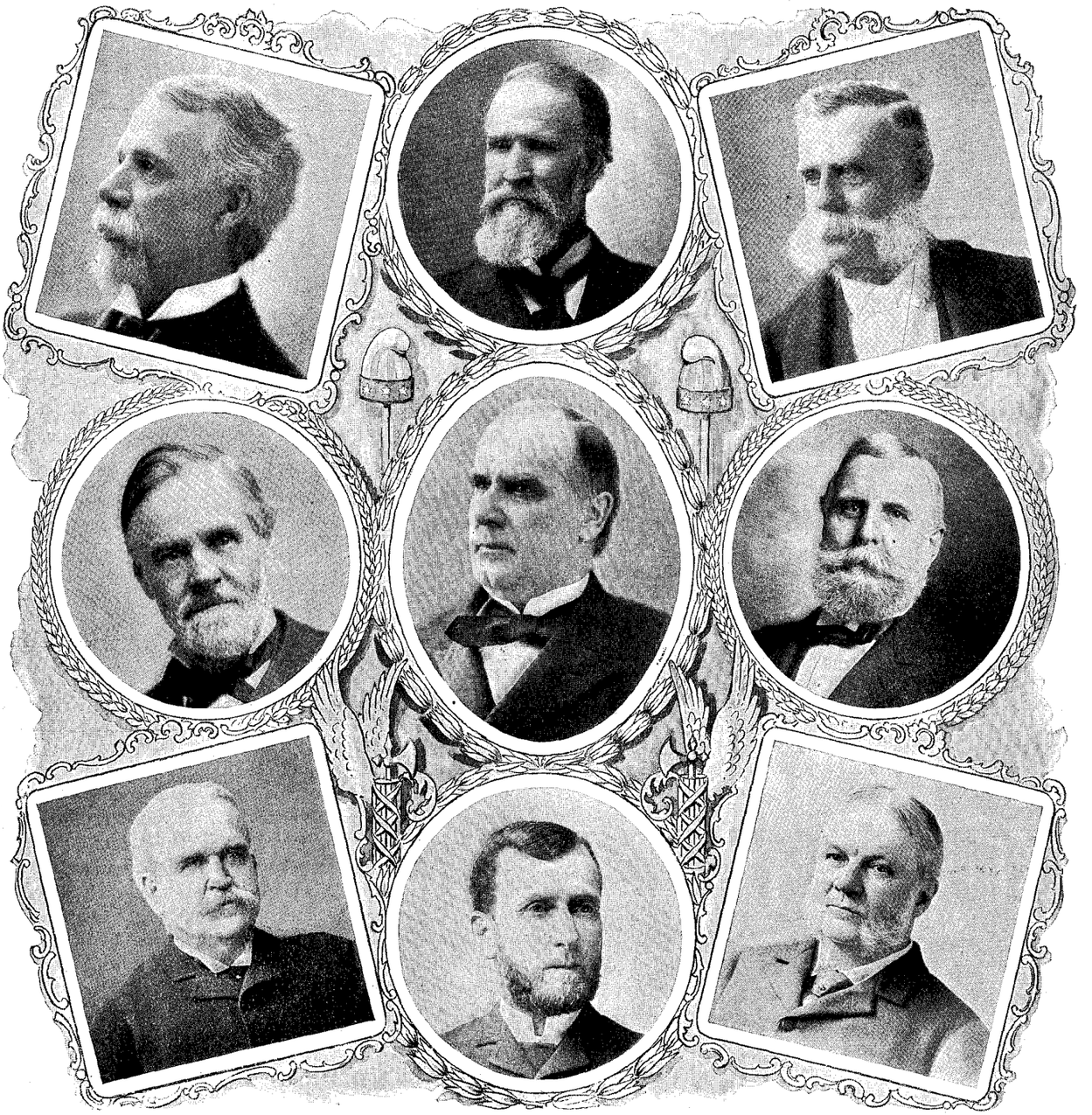

RUSSELL A. ALGER, OF MICHIGAN,
Secretary of War.

JOHN SHERMAN, OF OHIO,
Secretary of State.

JOHN D. LONG, OF MASSACHUSETTS,
Secretary of the Navy.

JAMES WILSON, OF IOWA,
Secretary of Agriculture.

PRESIDENT WILLIAM McKINLEY, OF OHIO.

JOSEPH McKENNA, OF CALIFORNIA,
Attorney-General.

JAMES A. GARY, OF MARYLAND,
Postmaster-General.

LYMAN J. GAGE, OF ILLINOIS,
Secretary of the Treasury.

CORNELIUS N. BLISS, OF NEW YORK,
Secretary of the Interior.

disagrees with Secretary Sherman, who is an ardent friend of the greenbacks and who wrote to an Ohio constituent not long ago that he should do all he could in the cabinet to prevent their retirement. Mr. Sherman's eminence as a financier makes this division of cabinet opinion decidedly interesting.

"But it will not be the first time that Mr. Sherman has differed on this question with a President under whom he was serving as a cabinet officer. The New York Evening *Post* calls attention to the fact that in December, 1880, Mr. Sherman, then Secretary of the Treasury, wrote in his annual report that the 'United States notes are now, in form, security, and convenience, the best circulating medium known.' On the same day President Hayes wrote to Congress:

"'The retirement from circulation of United States notes is a step to be taken, in our progress toward a safe and stable currency, which should be accepted as the "policy and duty of the Government and the interest and security of the people."'

"It appears, however, that Mr. Sherman got the best of that difference of opinion so far as practical results are concerned. It remains to be seen whether President McKinley and Secretary Gage will be more successful than President Hayes."—*The Republican (Ind.), Springfield, Mass.*

Politically Weak.—"If it comes to a question of composing differences in his own party, of outlining a policy on a given subject that can be successfully carried out, of forcing the party into line with himself and keeping it there, of securing that harmony between Congress and the Executive which is essential to a practically successful Administration—President McKinley will find little help obtainable from his cabinet advisers, and not much,

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perhaps, from his friend Hanna. The latter, whom it seems proper to consider in connection with the President's official family, tho he is not to be a member of the cabinet, is unquestionably a man of remarkable force and executive ability, but he is naturally not regarded with favor by those Republican leaders in Congress whom he has overridden and almost openly scorned, and he may not find it an easy matter by any means to carry them with him in any business entrusted to his charge. But if the cabinet lacks strength politically—and that is a matter of more importance to the President and to the party organization than to the public—it is not, with one or two exceptions, noticeably weak individually. Neither, for that matter, is its personnel noticeably strong. It contains only one man—Mr. Sherman—who has ever been a national figure of the first rank; and he, it is greatly to be feared, has survived his greatest usefulness, if he has not become positively incompetent."—*The Journal* (*Ind.*), *Providence, R. I.*

Business Sense in the Cabinet.—"The business world is well represented in the new cabinet. Mr. Bliss is one of the most eminent merchants of this city, whose active interest in public affairs has been purely unselfish; while he has given much time to the work of his party, he has sought no office at its hands and has always declined to become a candidate even when the circumstances warranted confidence in success. His influence in politics has been uniformly on the side of pure and honest government and the administration of affairs for the public good and not merely for the benefit of the office-holders. . . . The President could hardly have made a selection more satisfactory to New York or affording a higher assurance of the elevated tone and the sound business sense which he desires to have characterize his administration."—*The Journal of Commerce* (*Ind.*), *New York.*

Should have Favored the South.—"The chief criticism that may be justly made against the cabinet is that there is not a single appointment south of the Potomac or in any of the Southern States. . . . The McKinley Administration will be successful or unsuccessful as it shall bring to its support, or fail to bring to its support, several of the leading States of the South. With hundreds of millions of idle capital seeking safe investment, the Southern States could inaugurate a wonderful system of industrial development if confidence was felt in the integrity of their state governments and their devotion to honest money; and every effort should be directed to bringing the Southern States, which have vast resources inviting capital, into political accord with the Administration."—*The Times* (*Ind.*), *Philadelphia.*

A Discreditable Selection.—"Of the 70,000,000 people in the United States 7,000,000 voted for Major McKinley in 1896. Of these 7,000,000 it is safe to say that any one of 500,000, being a man of indisputably good record in every relation of life, would efficiently and creditably discharge the duties of Secretary of War. With this great field before him Major McKinley's choice fell upon Brevet General Russell A. Alger of Michigan, upon whose military record rests a shadow, of whose political record there is charged by a distinguished statesman who is to be a member of Major McKinley's cabinet that he was substantially purchasing the votes of many delegates from the Southern States to the Republican national convention of 1888, and on whose business record there is the animadversion of the Supreme Court of Michigan that he engaged in a combination to his own immense profit that was a menace to the public."—*The Chronicle* (*Dem.*), *Chicago.*

Service Rewarded.—"When the famous Platt-Quay combine was formed more than a year ago General Alger refused to identify himself with the McKinley opposition. He was the major's trusted ally in this State previous to the spring convention that elected delegates to St. Louis, and without General Alger's assistance it is improbable that McKinley would have had a solid delegation from this State. General Alger took a prominent part in the campaign, and the tour of the generals planned by him was a most potent agency in deciding the election so far as the middle West was concerned. That General Alger is in every way capable to perform the duties of the position to which he has been called, there is none that will question. He is a shrewd, far-sighted business man; he is familiar to a certain extent with the workings of the War Department; he was seeing active service in the late war when some of the men who have since attempted to besmirch his military record were racing to places of safety or remaining at home nursing petty grievances against the Administration. He has the confidence of the members of his party, and his unswerving Republicanism has never been questioned."—*The Tribune* (*Ind. Rep.*), *Detroit.*

"The Known and Unknown."—"John Sherman, a known quantity, known to be uncertain.

"Lyman J. Gage, known to be a very handsome man.

"Russell A. Alger, known to know the Star-Spangled Banner when he sees it.

"John D. Long, known to Massachusetts.

"Joseph McKenna, known to the courts of California, and favorably known.

"James A. Gary, known to Maryland.

"James Wilson, known to Iowa and the vegetable kingdom.

"Cornelius N. Bliss, known to have entered the cabinet with the greatest personal reluctance.

"That much is known. The working efficiency of the cabinet as an organized whole, the special fitness of its members for the functions to which the President has assigned them, the fame of usefulness or opprobrium that awaits them in their several departments, the genius and character of the McKinley cabinet in every respect except as an ingenious and tolerably successful construction of political architecture, are all as blankly and completely unknown as anything that yet reposes in the loins of Time.

"To style it, therefore, a strong and satisfactory cabinet would be as unjust as to pronounce it a feeble one. The one thing known at this writing about the McKinley cabinet is that it has four years before it, a clear field, and the good wishes of all, including *The Sun*."—*The Sun* (*Dem.*), *New York.*

NEWSPAPER JUDGMENT OF CLEVELAND.

WHATEVER may be thought concerning the permanent value of contemporaneous newspaper judgment of men and events, it is plain that the press of this country has no intention of deferring judgment of ex-President Cleveland's career to the future historian. Last week we quoted from Prof. Woodrow Wilson's discriminating estimate of Mr. Cleveland and his record. A survey of press opinions on the same subject seems to confirm Professor Wilson's description of him as "a national force, a maker and unmaker of policies." Compare, for instance, this characterization from a leading Democratic paper (the New York *Sun*): "He began as an Accident, he developed as an Ego, and he ends as a Destroyer," with the following estimate by the editor of *Harper's Weekly* (Henry Loomis Nelson), who speaks of President Cleveland as retiring from two illustrious Administrations, "with the confidence of the people, and with the admiration of all, including the best among his political opponents." Mr. Nelson designates the late President as

"an example of the value of the character of a public man to his party that will some day be accepted by a race of politicians yet to be, for it is doubtless true that if the Democratic Party had possessed sufficient wisdom—sufficient shrewdness, if you will—to take advantage of the opportunity made for it by Mr. Cleveland's services, it would now be as strong in the regard of the country as the Republican Party was after Lincoln's assassination had emphasized its own and its leader's services to the Union."

The opinions of many Republican journals, assuming a judicial attitude, furnish an interesting study. Mr. Cleveland's advance, in spite of the politicians of his own party, leads the New York *Tribune*, for example, to say:

"He has made an impression upon the history of his time which can not be gainsaid, and which it would be foolish to ignore. . . . He has come nearer than any man ever did in a republic to carrying out the declaration of the grand monarch: 'I am the state.' . . . Democrats certainly are estopped by their own record from denying his greatness. Republicans may consistently deny it, and only admit that he has the appearance of greatness from comparison with the abject littleness of his party. And, perhaps, after all, the verdict of history will be that his highest claim to greatness is based upon the service he rendered the country in breaking up the Democratic Party."

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The Boston *Journal* singles out Mr. Cleveland's Venezuelan message as the one achievement on which his lasting fame will chiefly rest, adding:

"His efforts for a sound currency, though unsuccessful within his own party, have been of real assistance to the triumph of that cause within the nation. For this the Republican Party, whose good fortune it has been to be the direct agency of that triumph, can afford to make grateful and ungrudging acknowledgment."

The Cleveland, Ohio, *Leader* believes that a large majority of the people will agree that Cleveland's entire administration is not entitled to praise, altho praise is due for his bold stand in the Venezuelan boundary dispute, the Debs insurrection and for his efforts in behalf of sound money. The Chicago *Times-Herald* recounts three great services of Mr. Cleveland: "Whatever else he has done to increase or mar his fame, his unswerving defense of the gold standard, his administration of the civil service, and his formulation of the great arbitration treaty will be written large in the history of the nation." The Minneapolis *Tribune* discovers his strength "in his rude honesty of purpose, his rough independence, and his fearless execution of his duty as he sees it."

But there are severe Republican critics in the East, as well as in other sections, as for instance the Irish *World*, which declares of "Clevelandism": "From start to finish it has been a dismal failure, and its outgoing will not be regretted outside the circle of money-lenders and trust magnates, in whose pockets it has placed millions of dollars." Also the New Haven *Palladium:* "Mr. Cleveland has made no new political discoveries except the absurd one that government should be rather a personal than a party affair, the logical outcome of which would be political chaos and general anarchy." And the Philadelphia *Press:*

"His turgid and ponderous platitudes have been regarded in some quarters as models of philosophy. His obstinacy has been treated as heroic; his doubtful essence has been held up as the fountain of the highest political morality. A dispassionate review will recognize his strong attributes, but it will not place him intellectually on the plane with our great Presidents, and it will associate with his last administration a period of national misfortune more directly attributable to administrative policy and management than any other in our history."

Perhaps the prevailing far-Western judgment of Mr. Cleveland is sufficiently indicated by the words of the *Tribune* (Ind.), Salt Lake City:

"It is sufficient to say that for all time to come, until his name perishes from the memory of the earth, it will be the wonder of the world how he, from among the millions of intelligent men who people this country, was twice chosen to be President of the United States, and the final determination of the matter can not help but be: He was elected to that office because he was the willing advocate of all that was brutal in American business and politics, and that he cheerfully used all the power of that office to give the wealth of this country to a few and make beggars or slaves of the rest."

In the South the New Orleans *Picayune* criticizes the Southern political managers for their opposition to Mr. Cleveland because of his financial policy, when "he has done more for the Southern people and States" than any chief magistrate of the United States since General Taylor, the last President elected from the Southern States. It continues:

"They (the Southern Democratic Party leaders) seem to have forgotten that he proposed and exerted himself to have all the Federal election surveillance laws repealed and abolished, thus giving the Southern people complete local self-government and control of their own elections. They disregard the fact that he put an undue number of prominent Southern men in high public office. It was all for nothing that President Cleveland fought for a low tariff for the Southern people, as against the protected and privileged classes of New England and Northern manufacturers."

The Jacksonville, Fla., *Times-Union* asserts that: "Mr. Cleveland has more enemies, perhaps, than any man alive to-day, and yet will retire from office, probably, with a larger personal following than any man since Jackson." The Nashville, Tenn., *Banner* calls Grover Cleveland a strong and stedfast character who "has proved himself a patriot and a statesman." The Savannah, Ga., *News* says: "Notwithstanding the enmity of the politicians and party leaders he has shown the country on occasions that he was easily the greatest man of his party."

The independent press in general attributes numerous elements of strength to Mr. Cleveland, but admits that he has shown himself somewhat of a blunderer. The Baltimore *Herald* says: "His integrity and patriotism can not be called in question, but his judgment in emergencies seems to have been clouded always by the fatuity of self-esteem and the notion that his impressions were better than those of other men." The Chicago *Record* notes that on two subjects of unusual importance, civil-service reform and arbitration, "his service to civilization can not be seriously and intelligently questioned in any quarter," and that his position on the two great questions of tariff and currency reform has been approved at the ballot-box by his countrymen. The Springfield *Republican* finds Mr. Cleveland's work characterized by certain of its most salient traits as a lawyer's work:

"His administrations have been, in their faults and in their virtues, the executive work of a conscientious and careful lawyer. Nothing else accounts for his Hawaiian policy; and that very peculiarity of his conscience has made his steps in civil service so strong."

This paper does not forget to mention the influence on Cleveland's life of his most fortunate marriage.

"She [Mrs. Cleveland] has proved one of the most remarkable women in American history. . . She has made over Grover Cleveland, altho he may not know it, and she has the suffrages of all men and women, whatever their politics, for the title of the first lady in the land."

VETO OF THE IMMIGRATION BILL.

ONE of the last official acts of President Cleveland was his veto of the immigration bill. His message to Congress March 2 gave in detail the reasons for this action. He characterized the bill as a radical departure from our national policy, expressing the belief that it is not necessary, and that the educational test provided in it would not exclude the most undesirable elements. He said:

"The best reason that could be given for this radical restriction of immigration is the necessity of protecting our population against degeneration and saving our national peace and quiet from imported turbulence and disorder. I can not believe that we would be protected against these evils by limiting immigration to those who can read and write in any language twenty-five words of our Constitution. In my opinion it is infinitely more safe to admit a hundred thousand immigrants who, tho unable to read and write, seek among us only a home and opportunity to work than to admit one of those unruly agitators and enemies of governmental control who can not only read and write but delights in arousing by inflammatory speech the illiterate and peacefully inclined to discontent and tumult.

"Violence and disorder do not originate with illiterate laborers. They are rather the victims of the educated agitator. The ability to read and write as required in this bill, in and of itself affords, in my opinion, a misleading test of contented industry and supplies unsatisfactory evidence of desirable citizenship or a proper appreciation of the benefits of our institutions. If any particular element of our illiterate immigration is to be feared for other causes than illiteracy, these causes should be dealt with directly instead of making illiteracy the pretext for exclusion, to the detriment of other immigrants against whom the real cause of complaint can not be alleged. The provisions intended to rid that part of the proposed legislation already referred to from obvious hardships appear to me to be indefinite and inadequate."

Against that portion of the bill which prohibited a male alien from employment in the United States, unless he made a declaration of his purpose to become a citizen, the President said:

"The prohibition against the employment of aliens upon any

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public works of the United States is in line with other legislation of a like character. It is quite a different thing, however, to declare it a crime for an alien to come regularly and habitually into the United States for the purpose of obtaining work from private parties, if such alien returns from time to time to a foreign country, and to constitute any employment of such alien a criminal offense.

"When we consider these provisions of the bill in connection with our long Northern frontier and the boundaries of several of our States and Territories, often but an imaginary line separating them from the British dominions, and recall the friendly intercourse between the people who are neighbors on either side, the provisions of this bill affecting them must be regarded as illiberal, narrow, and un-American.

"The residents of these States and Territories have separate and especial interests, which in many cases make an interchange of labor between their people and their alien neighbors most important, frequently with the advantage largely in favor of our citizens. This suggests the inexpediency of Federal interference with these conditions when not necessary to the correction of a substantial evil affecting the general welfare. Such unfriendly legislation as is proposed could hardly fail to provoke retaliatory measures to the injury of many of our citizens who now find employment on adjoining foreign soil.

"The uncertainty of construction to which the language of these provisions is subject is a serious objection in a statute which describes a crime. An important element in the offense sought to be created by these sections is the coming 'regularly or habitually into the United States.' These words are impossible of definite and certain construction. The same may be said of the equally important words 'returning from time to time to a foreign country.'"

Against the general claim that the quality of recent immigration is undesirable, President Cleveland held that the same thing was said of immigrants who, with their descendants, are now numbered with our best citizens. He does not think that there is an increase of dangerous classes of immigrants in the cities sufficient to demand a reversion of the present policy, but that the prevailing conditions under which laborers are unemployed is the result of phenomenal business depression and stagnation: "With the advent of settled and wholesome financial and economic governmental policies, and a consequent encouragement to the activity of capital, the misfortunes of unemployed labor should, to a great extent at least, be remedied," and, "if it continues, its natural consequences must be to check the further immigration to our cities of foreign laborers, and to deplete the ranks of those already there."

An Unfortunate Veto.—"Mr. Cleveland's veto of the immigration bill is unfortunate for the country. . . . We have had enough of the sort of immigration of which Europe is only too glad to get rid. The bill passed by Congress drew the line at illiterates. Nearly seventy thousand of this class, aliens who could neither read nor write, were dumped on our shores last year from three European countries alone. With this mass of ignorance, as the statistics showed, poverty came hand-in-hand. In our native-born population illiteracy is deemed a national evil. To prevent it nearly two hundred million dollars a year are spent on public schools. Why should the nation welcome or receive this evil from abroad? The United States has plenty of room for worthy, self-supporting, thrifty, law-abiding immigrants. It has no room for hordes of cheap, ignorant aliens. It does not want the dregs of Europe. It is high time to draw the line between desirable and worthless immigrants."—*The Herald (Ind.), New York.*

Americans the Worst Enemies of American Institutions.—"Among immigrants the proportion of illiteracy is largest in those who come from Southern and particularly Southeastern Europe. These are a less desirable class than those who came from Northern Europe and used to, and still do, constitute the bulk of the immigrants. But in proportion to the total immigration their numbers are not very great, and in proportion to the total population of the country they are but few, and nearly all of them are quiet and hard-working people, even if they can not read twenty-five words of the United States Constitution. The last census decade affords no evidence that immigration is breaking down the standard of well-paid American labor, and the worst enemies of American institutions are in nearly all cases Americans and their descendants of Americans. The constant effort to overthrow the independence of the judiciary, the construction of political machines, the folly of thinking that wealth can be doubled by halving the unit of measurement, the efforts to embroil the country with foreign nations, all these things are almost exclusively American."—*The Journal of Commerce (Ind.), New York.*

Far from the Worst of Cleveland's Acts.—"There is one feature of the bill which the President does not bear down upon half hardly enough. This is the flout at Canada. Aliens from other countries can come here and work and go away and come again, provided they can read and write some language. But aliens from Canada under this bill could not come into the country temporarily without declaring and proving their intention to become citizens. Here is where the protective spirit embodied in the bill shows its teeth, and to no advantage to this country. Retaliation and neighborly ill-will would have been the outcome, and from Detroit, for example, come well-supported statements that retaliation by the Dominion would hurt the business of that city far more than the labor and trade of the adjoining province of Ontario. This veto is not the least among Mr. Cleveland's public acts and very far from being the worst by which he will be judged hereafter."—*The Republican (Ind.), Springfield, Mass.*

CAMPAIGN AGAINST DEPARTMENT STORES.

THE department store as an issue in politics is comparatively new. Measures directed to overcome alleged evils of these modern business institutions are pending in New York State, Wisconsin, and Illinois. The anti-department store campaign is, however, most prominent in Illinois, where the Republican organization has made hostility to department stores a plank of the party platform in the campaign for mayor of Chicago. Republicans of the legislature of the State have also decided to push legislation for the classification of various lines of merchandise so as to put the smaller stores in position to compete with the great stores which sell everything under the sun.

The campaign which centers in Chicago presents a number of interesting phenomena. Organizations of business men representing the smaller traders have voted to cooperate to resist the encroachments of the big stores upon their fields. The idea of securing a cumulative tax was embodied in a bill before the legislature about two years ago, and a modification of this principle appears to be the line upon which these organizations expect to fight the department-store competition. In perfecting the cooperation of the smaller traders, the assistance of the labor organizations was desired. These organizations were none too eager to take up the merchants' cause, for the alleged reason that many of these merchants had not employed union men. Hence it was resolved that the small traders extend to the labor unions their hearty sympathies, and do all in their power to further the sale of union-made goods.

In the legislature it developed that when the Republican caucus declared itself in favor of regulating, controlling, or abolishing department stores, or at least confining them to such lines of trade as will remedy existing evils of centralization and destruction of individual occupations, the agriculturists demanded, in view of the great depression now prevailing, that maximum freight rates should be established for their benefit.

Leading Chicago papers editorially treat this whole movement as a piece of machine politics. The plank adopted by the Republican city convention, which nominated Judge N. C. Sears for mayor, reads as follows:

"In our opinion, one of the crying evils of our city is the destruction of the profits of the small shopkeepers by the competition of the department stores, which, by the use of labor grossly underpaid, have succeeded in largely driving out of business the many smaller storekeepers throughout the city, and we hereby request such legislation from the State of Illinois and the city council as will prevent the combination of the many different kinds of storekeeping, otherwise unallied, in the great department stores. We believe that the theory of the Republican Party in favor of protection goes to the extent that the local business of every neighborhood, so far as possible, should be transacted in that neighborhood, and we favor as far as may be legally done the wiping out of the present system of big department stores."

Demagogy in the Platform.—"The public long ago learned to feel a good-humored contempt for municipal party platforms. They are of no particular importance. The man is the platform. . . . People who have read about the bull against the comet and the adventures of King Canute may not be surprised at the folly

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of this resolution. But it seems strange that after centuries of human progress and the diffusion of a common-school education, a gathering of politicians, lawyers, clerks, bridge-tenders, and barkeepers should think it possible to decide one corner of an almost universal question. In the name of political economy, what have the mayor and common council of Chicago to do with control of the laws of trade? About as much, one might say, as they have to do with the direction of the solar system. We will look forward with curiosity to the final enforcement of their principles. Probably it will take the form of an ordinance prescribing a fine of $100 or imprisonment for 200 days for the offense of buying things downtown. Every man must 'trade in his own neighborhood.'

"The business men engaged in the agitation against department stores will destroy all hope of public support for their movement by inviting the assistance of gang politicians, who will use it until they make it ridiculous and then cast it aside. The department stores have nothing as cheap as the demagogism of this plank."—*The Times-Herald* (*Ind. Rep.*), *Chicago.*

Republican Logic.—"This is Republican logic carried to its ultimate. This is the end of the path taken readily and jauntily and pursued without question or remorse by the Republican Party for nearly forty years. Republican journals assuming to denounce interference with department stores forget the sophistry of their own school of economy. They assume, in the first instance, to declare it a proper function of national government to interfere with the natural law of trade to the end that consumers may be compelled to make their purchases from tariff-protected industries. This principle established, where is the end? The protection that one industry asks is demanded by another, and we see in the fourteen schedules of the tariff law how completely each industry has asserted its right to compel consumers in the United States to become, willy-nilly, its customer. The operation of that principle carried to its irresistible conclusion is stated in the position of the Republican city convention. There must be a denial of the right of the individual to sell in the dearest and buy in the cheapest market. Inclined to follow that natural law, he must be thwarted. National lines are first drawn. After forty years of practise in that direction we get down to the assertion that lines must be drawn by the ward or township or block."—*The Chronicle* (*Dem.*), *Chicago.*

Growing Dependence on the State.—"The fierceness of the competition between the agents who distribute the products of labor among the consumers of them is causing the adoption of every possible device for bringing producers and consumers closer together. The use of very large amounts of capital in the conduct of great department stores is one of these devices. It permits of economies in distribution not otherwise possible, and is, therefore, a perfectly legitimate outcome of our civilization and economic methods. An attempt to abolish this device will fail, but that it should be made is, as we have said, a striking illustration of the tendency of the times in politics. It is but one of a hundred efforts to induce legislatures or Congress to take care of the business of people unable or unwilling to take care of it for themselves. There seems to be a growing sense of helplessness, a growing dependence on the State."—*The Times-Union* (*Dem.*), *Florida.*

Difference between Trusts and Department Stores.—"The department stores follow a general law of business centralization that is one of the marked developments of our times. If the whole business of merchandizing should pass into their hands, and they have a monopoly of production, supply and sale, and then should combine to regulate prices, their case would be analogous with that of the industrial trusts. But this is not the case as to the department stores. Instead of combining there is vigorous competition all the time going on among them, and this competition is for the benefit of the purchaser. Buying in great quantities, with large stocks accumulated, they give a great freedom of choice and selection in normal conditions, and at the time of their periodical sales, to rid their shelves of accumulations, they afford the mass of poorer purchasers opportunities of cheap supply unknown before the advent of the department store. This is one of their great advantages, and the crowds that throng them attest the fact. It is probably correct that in many respects it would be better for the community were there a hundred stores doing the business of one of these great department stores, but that is looking after the unattainable. . . . They are not monopolies in the sense that the great trusts are, for the law of their being, and it is a law that can not be changed, is the fiercest sort of competition, and this competition is the opportunity of close buyers."—*The Post* (*Dem.*), *Pittsburg, Pa.*

Simply an Enlarged Country Store.—"As we see things, the department store of the city is simply the general store of the country towns on an enlarged scale. The general store has been the favorite of the people throughout the country since a time long and antedating the births of Senator Lundin and ex-Senator Salomon. The latter gentleman, however, seems to have been born in the city, and only knows city ways. In explaining the intent of the bill for the benefit of the readers of *The Inter Ocean* yesterday he said:

"'The theory on which the above arrangement has been based is the natrual division of business as it was, and still is, where undisturbed by the forced and unnatural conditions brought about by department stores. We believe that a bill classifying business as we have done, and having for its fundamental purpose the restoration of business to a normal or natural basis, will pass in the legislature, and be constitutional.'

"If the ex-Senator will only take a trip of observation through Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa he will find department stores everywhere. He will find dried apples and silks, boots and shoes, and nails, ready-made clothing, pocket-knives, all sorts of notions, groceries, and almost everything to supply family wants are sold under the same roof, and not infrequently in the same room. Let us have a more explicit explanation from Senator Lundin."—*The Inter Ocean* (*Rep.*), *Chicago.*

"The tendency of the age is toward economy in time, labor, and expense, and there is little probability that any effectual means will be found for arresting it. Competition is becoming so fierce and relentless that it seems inevitable that it must ultimately destroy not only itself but that upon which it feeds."—*The State Capital, Topeka, Kans.*

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

PRETTY soon it will be the "Unspeakable Powers."—*The Press, New York.*

BEN HARRISON, once President, is now a floorwalker.—*The Times, Kansas City.*

ALL eyes are fixed on President McKinley, especially the Buckeyes.—*The Transcript, Boston.*

EVEN Colonel Waring would make a failure of cleaning the streets of Washington—of office-seekers.—*Twinkles, New York.*

WHERE'S the woman with the scales? Mr. Rhodes takes all the blame for the Jameson raid, so why don't they send him to jail as they did Dr. Jim?—*The Republican, Springfield.*

MR. Bryan says he recently declined a position as editorial writer on an Eastern daily which would have paid him $25,000 a year. He should have accepted; the pay offered him was fully up to the average for such work.—*The Times-Herald, Chicago.*

THIS is the difference according to the Boston *Transcript* (Ind.): "Lobbying in Tennessee has been made a felony punishable by from two to five years' imprisonment. In New York the offender is sentenced to three years in one of the best offices of the State."

COLONEL WATTERSON wants "Democracy to stand by its guns." That is, we suppose, the Colonel desires Democracy to get out of the bad habit of getting in front of its guns, and thus avoid "the slaughter-house and the open grave." It is level-headed advice. The Colonel would have done well to have further advised that, when a Democratic gun is to be fired, it will be just as well to get behind the nearest tree, as the old thing has got into the bad habit of bursting.—*The Inter Ocean, Chicago.*

GAGE ON CIVIL-SERVICE REFORM.

"I AM an uncompromising adherent to the principles of civil-service reform, and during my incumbency in the Treasury Department I shall support the civil-service law to the very best of my ability. The major number of the applications for office which have been presented to me are for positions covered by the civil-service law—which makes me devoutly thankful. It really seems extraordinary to me that men throughout the United States, whose ability is such that they consider themselves fitted for the holding of responsible government positions, seem to be entirely unaware that the operations of the civil-service law, as recently broadened, make it absolutely impossible for them to be given the positions to which they aspire. I don't know of any American governmental doctrine that is less understood in general throughout the entire country than the civil-service law—but I fancy there may be a general awakening on the subject during the next four years. In so far as the department which I am to assume is concerned, there certainly will be."—*Interview with Lyman J. Gage, McKinley's Secretary of the Treasury, in The Star, Washington, March 1.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

LITERARY CONDITION OF CONTEMPORARY ITALY.

FERTILE in literary production as the last ten years have been for Italy, the question whether there has been real progress is not easily answered. New tendencies have arisen, and movements of other countries have been reflected in the literature of Italy, but have the new talents revealed originality and inventiveness? An interesting account of Italian literature of to-day is contributed to *Cosmopolis* by two writers, an American living in Italy, Helen Zimmern, and an Italian critic, Alberto Manzi. According to these writers, among the new writers who aspire to enduring fame the poets take a foremost place, altho the greater ones have been silent. We quote:

"The marked poetic revival which distinguished Italy since its unification seems exhausted, or at least is dormant. Carducci, by head and shoulders the foremost as poet and thinker of these bards, has been practically silent for a decade, for the mannered, stilted *vers d'occasion*, overcharged with recondite classical and mythological allusions, which he has put forth in pamphlet form from time to time in order to adulate the House of Savoy, of which he, the once ardent republican, has become an equally ardent adherent, won over by the smiles of Queen Margherita, can not be classed as poetry, and are in manner and method quite unworthy of the author of the 'Hymn to Satan' and the 'Odi Barbare.' D'Annunzio, the next greatest, as a purely lyric poet even greater, has abandoned the muse for some time past and devoted himself to prose instead. Notwithstanding the plagiarisms from English, and above all from French writers, of which he has this year been convicted—a discovery which roused a perfect hornets' nest of acrimonious controversy in both the French and Italian press—he has nevertheless written things that must last as long as the Italian tongue. Never surely was any one more distinctly divine poet born, however he may of late years have dissipated his gifts. His songs can be ranked with those of Goethe, Shakespeare, and Burns for their perfect spontaneity, and it is worth mentioning that his finest poetry is not his love poetry, tho that is fine, but that which deals with nature, with manly emotions.

"Rapisardi, too, the rather long-winded epic poet, the author of 'Lucifero' and of 'Job,' in which all humanity is personified, has also long been silent, absorbed in his professional duties at Catania. The same applies to Enrico Panzacchi, the elegant singer not unjustly compared to François Coppée, as also to Marradi, who won his poetical spurs under the pseudonym of Labronio. Pascoli, too, the exquisite, the man of one book, 'Myricæ,' the singer who loves to realize in verse the impressions of a moment, and who tells us that these poems are merely windfalls, that he has yet to gather the fruit from his tree, has contented himself with republishing this volume, which was long out of print, in an elegant illustrated edition."

It is therefore to the new talents that Italy must look, and fortunately these are springing up daily. Ida Negri, who lately caused a stir in the world of letters, stands at the head of the new school of poetry and voices the aspirations and sentiments of the poor and oppressed.

The novel-writers are divided into three schools or sections, and each derives its leading principles from foreign sources. The writers say:

"The literature of fiction has been more active and more fortunate, notwithstanding the fact that the great Sicilian, Giovanni Verga, the high priest, so to speak, of the most notable tendency, of the actual novel literature in Italy, has unfortunately also been silent for a couple of years, if we except a gruesome play which for its repulsive character finds little favor on the boards, 'La Lupa,' founded on one of his own early stories, contemporary with the lucky 'Cavalleria Rusticana.' Verga has been visibly inspired by Zolaism; admiration for the French author was at one time carried to the point of fetishism in Italy, while now by some the French writer is as extravagantly depreciated as before he was extravagantly lauded.

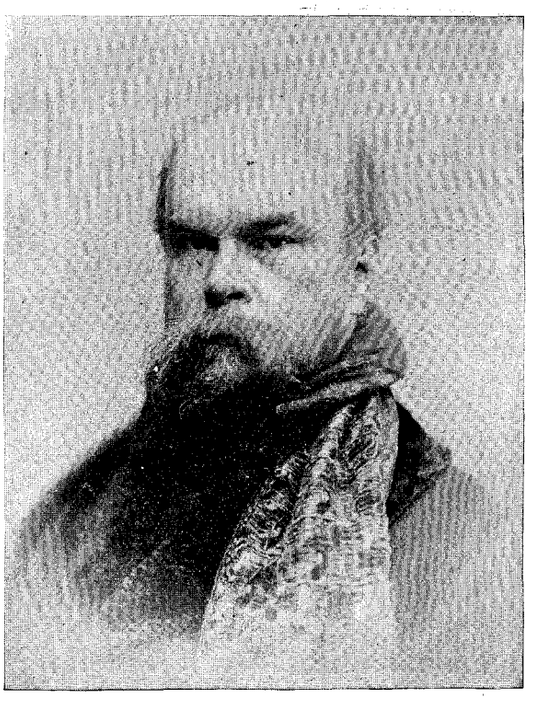
"The second school, which also takes its origin from France, headed by Gabriele D'Annunzio, includes all those who, to an overrated cultus of form, have lately united a cultus for the theories of Frederick Nietzsche, theories of aristocracy and egoism as explained by them, whose principles and fundamentals they did not fully understand, the originals being mostly a closed book to them, as no Italian translations exist. The third section are followers of Antonio Fogazzaro, himself a lineal descendant in Apollo of the great Alessandro Manzoni, writers who are by no means neglectful of form, as the second section would have us believe, but who seem desirous to oppose the high aspirations of the soul, a pleasant serenity of heart and mind, a gentle sentimentalism which is rather German than Italian in its nature, to the bizarre contortions of the prose of the second class of writers, which, professing to be simple, is larded with archaic and difficult words.

"For this matter, however, this turning to the past in scorn of the present is a phenomenon not new in Italian literature, nor in that of other lands either. The well-merited novelistic triumph of the past year belongs to Antonio Fogazzaro with his 'Piccolo Mondo Antico,' a book that treats of the struggles, the pettiness, the nobility of the little world centered in Val Solda, an offshoot of Lake Lugano, during that mighty year in Italy's modern history, 1859, and the years immediately preceding it, years of hope, of preparation for the future unity of the land."

In the dramatic world little has been accomplished. The theater has rather been a topic for historians and essayists than a field for playwrights, and hence modern Italy has no adequate representation on the modern stage.

MEMORIES OF PAUL VERLAINE.

"ONE who knew" the brilliant but unfortunate French poet, whose career reminds us in many ways of Poe, tells of a visit to him in his rooms in the narrow, squalid street (St. Victor) in which he lived in Paris. Verlaine at the time was laid up with



PAUL VERLAINE.

the gout. The writer proceeds with his narrative (in *The Academy*) as follows:

"At the doorway of the house in which Verlaine lived was a group of gossiping women with disheveled hair, and uncared-for children were scrambling in the gutter or playing hide-and-seek behind the petticoats of their elders, as in the slums of London.

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'M. Verlaine,' said one of the women with a marked tone of reverence as she repeated the poet's name in answer to my inquiry for his flat, 'Au quatrième, la porte à gauche.' And so I made my way up the narrow, creaking stairs to the two small rooms which Verlaine and his housekeeper occupied at this time.

"He was sitting in an armchair near the open window; his right leg, swathed in bandages, resting on a stool. On a table before him were the materials for writing which he always kept within reach so as to be able at a moment's notice to record his thoughts. He gave one the impression of a person who was suffering much pain, but who was too proud to show it. His manner during the first two hours of our conversation was reserved and dignified. Later, his temper broke down under the pain he was suffering, and he freely denounced his enemies.

"I remember during the course of our conversation expressing admiration for one of his poems, 'À Eugénie,' which had been published a short time before in *The New Review*—a charming piece of work in which the author dwelt lovingly on the virtues and beauty apparently of some young girl very dear to him. Out shot Verlaine's hand toward his pen to make a note of the date of the magazine on the edge of a newspaper, for he did not appear to have heard of its publication, and checks were things which rarely came in his direction. 'Not that I myself care for money,' he said apologetically, 'but these good people must be paid,' and he made a motion with his hand to indicate the proprietors of the house. Hardly had he spoken the words than a kindly looking buxom woman of forty entered the room, and was about hurriedly to withdraw upon seeing a visitor, when Verlaine begged her to remain. Then, with a wave of his hand and a kindly smile, he said, 'Voilà Eugénie!' the Eugénie of the poem of which we had been speaking, the poet's countrywoman, the Alsatian who to the end of his days remained his stanch friend when others deserted him, and who was the embodiment to him of all that was most beautiful.

"It was a pleasing incident to preface our friendship. Then a few minutes later the baby girl of a neighbor toddled into the room to say the only words she had yet learnt: 'Bonjour, Monsieur Verlaine,' and the delight which he showed in taking her on his knee was equally pleasing. But after this period of calm there was to come the storm, a wild outburst of wrath caused by the attack which Herr Max Nordau made upon him in 'Degeneration.' The book had just been published in a French edition, and Verlaine was glad to have the opportunity of reading the copy which I had brought with me. Line by line we read through the chapter on the symbolists, Verlaine growing more and more indignant with every page until the climax was reached upon reading the passage referring to his personal appearance:

"'On remarque au premier coup d'œil la forte asymétrie du crâne que Lombroso a signalée chez les dégénérés, et la physionomie mongoloïde characterisée par les pommettes saillantes, les yeux bridés et la barbe rare, que le même savant regarde comme un stigmate de dégénérescence.'*

"Verlaine no longer restrained himself; down came his fist upon the table, and out poured a torrent of abuse at the German criminologist who had had the audacity to turn literary critic. Passing his hand over his bald head, he appealed to me to say whether the description was accurate; but, before I had time to answer him, he half rose from his chair, and burst into another fit of anger. But he soon quieted down, and began to deliver a speech in his defense, as tho he had been on trial for his life. His contention was that Nordau, who probably had never seen him, relied too much upon newspaper descriptions of his physiognomy and certain portraits which exaggerated the irregular form of his skull; finally, that he allowed his theory to run away with him. 'Nordau will be trying to make out next,' he said, 'that Saint Vincent de Paul, whose skull was of extraordinary formation, was a criminal.' 'Mon-go-lo-ïde . . . Mon-go-lo-ïde,' he repeated scornfully as he glanced over other sections of the volume before him, and with these words the subject dropped."

According to the writer, Verlaine had a marked admiration for England and never tired of singing the praises of English literature. The following statement is made concerning his poetical aims:

"So much that is erroneous has been written in regard to his poetical aims, that it may be as well to state that he gave me to understand his object was to make his verse 'calme, simple, et grande.' In his opinion, poetry must return to its starting-point, and his tendency was to write simple verse, almost classic in form. The Parnassian movement, to which he gave his support, resulted, as will be remembered, from a meeting of Mallarmé, Mendès, Dierx, Heredia, Xavier de Ricard, Leconte de Lisle, Théodore de Banville—with the last two as leaders. 'We sought after perfect rhythm, rich and pure rime,' said Verlaine upon one occasion, 'in opposition to the imitators of Alfred de Musset and Lamartine.'"

* The entire passage in Nordau's book, and of which this is a part of the concluding sentence, runs as follows:

"The great poet of the symbolists, their most admired model, from whom, according to their unanimous testimony, they have received the strongest inspiration, is Paul Verlaine. In this man we find, in astonishing completeness, all the physical and mental marks of degeneration, and no author known to me answers so exactly, trait for trait, to the description of the degenerate given by the clinicists—his personal appearance, the history of his life, his intellect, his void of ideas and modes of expression. M. Jules Huret gives the following account of Verlaine's physical appearance: 'His face, like that of a wicked angel grown old, with a thin, untrimmed head, and abrupt (?) nose: his bushy, bristling eyebrows, resembling bearded wheat, hiding deepset green eyes; his wholly bald and huge long skull, misshapen by enigmatic bumps—all these give to his physiognomy a contradictory appearance of a stubborn asceticism and cyclopean appetites.' As appears in these ludicrously labored and, in part, entirely senseless expressions, even the most scientific observer has been struck with what Huret calls his 'enigmatic bumps.' If we look at the portrait of the poet, by Eugene Carrière, of which a photograph serves as frontispiece in the 'Select Poems' of Verlaine, and still more at that by M. Aman-Jean, exhibited in the Champs de Mars Salon in 1892, we instantly remark the great asymmetry of the head, which Lombroso has pointed out among degenerates, and the Mongolian physiognomy indicated by the projecting cheek-bones, obliquely placed eyes, and thin beard, which the same investigator looks upon as signs of degeneration."—*Editor of* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A MUSICAL DISCOVERY.

IF the conclusions announced by E. Davidson Palmer, an English vocalist, after five or six years of experimenting with the so-called falsetto voice, are confirmed, there is a revolution near at hand in the development of the male voice. These conclusions are, he says, of so startling a nature and so utterly at variance with all that is taught on the subject, that, tho he reached them by reason of his own personal experience long before his experiments upon others began, yet he felt the hopelessness of announcing them until he had fully fortified himself with confirmatory evidence. This evidence he thinks he now has, and he gives it to the public in *The Nineteenth Century* (February). These conclusions are stated by him at the outset as follows:

"The result of these experiments was such as to fully confirm me in the views which I had long entertained, by the establishment of the remarkable fact that by bringing down the so-called falsetto to within a few notes of the bottom of the vocal compass, and by exercising it frequently and persistently, it is possible at this low pitch to gradually strengthen and develop it until it acquires all the robustness of the ordinary 'chest voice.' When this process of development is completed, the voice may be said to be entirely transformed. The old 'chest voice' is discarded, and in place of the two registers of which the voice formerly consisted there is now only one register, which extends from one extremity of the voice to the other. This new voice, while as regards strength and volume of tone it bears a great resemblance to the discarded 'chest voice,' for which it may easily be mistaken, differs from it in three important particulars: firstly in the peculiar beauty and sweetness of its quality, secondly in its exceptionally extended compass, and thirdly in the perfect ease with which it can be carried to its upper limit."

Mr. Davidson then proceeds to describe his experiments. Here is one of them:

"One of the voices with which I was most successful was that of a young man of about six-and-twenty years of age, who when he came to me had already had some little training. His voice, which was tenor, consisted of the two registers commonly known as 'chest voice' and falsetto. The 'break' between these two registers was quite conspicuous, and the difficulty in producing the upper notes of the 'chest' register was unmistakable. He had been taught to exercise the 'chest voice' and let the so-called falsetto alone. I advised him to do exactly the reverse. On getting him to bring the upper register down as far as G in the fourth space of the bass stave, nearly an octave lower than it is supposed

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to be of any practical use, I found it, as was to be expected, exceedingly weak and 'breathy.' Below that point it was little better than a whisper. On this weak and 'breathy' voice he now began to work under my directions, by means principally of octave and arpeggio exercises. After about three months of regular and diligent practise, a very remarkable increase of strength was observable in all the notes as far down as the G just mentioned. These notes had lost their falsetto character, and had begun to sound like 'chest' notes. In a few more months the improvement had extended itself to the lower notes as far as the low D. Thus the development process went on until, in less than a year, the transformation was complete. The old 'chest voice' had been entirely discarded and superseded, and in its place was what may be described as a new kind of 'chest voice,' with an available compass of two octaves and a fourth, extending from the low A flat to the high D flat, every note strong and of good quality, *and every note produced in exactly the same way as the so-called falsetto.*"

Other cases in which similar results were achieved are mentioned, but admission is made that a number of failures and partial successes have been interspersed among the complete successes, some of the failures being due to lack of practise because of business pursuits, but most to the lack of necessary patience and perseverance. "Several of the partial successes were men over forty years of age." Another discovery was made, namely, "that the so-called falsetto not only strengthens that voice itself, but is beneficial to the 'chest voice' also." Says Mr. Davidson:

"It is generally supposed that its exercise to any great extent is productive of serious injury to the 'chest voice,' and the assertion has been made, and is indorsed by high authority, that, if it be exercised exclusively, the 'chest voice' will be entirely destroyed. There is not a vestige of truth in this assertion. The many careful and prolonged experiments which I have made disprove it completely; and not only do they do this, but they also show that, while the so-called falsetto is improved by being exercised, the 'chest voice' is improved by being let alone."

Another important point is brought out by the writer. He has occasionally met with adult males who possessed untrained voices which, contrary to the common teaching, had but one register, not two, nature having made them in her own way in defiance of all the great musical authorities. Even when examined with the laryngoscope no break in the voice could be discerned to indicate two registers. Voices so produced are exceptionally fine voices, and in adult males have the peculiarity of seeming to be all "chest voice," but can be carried to the highest limit of the voice with perfect ease. The means by which such voices are produced he has discovered to be simply and solely that which is employed in the production of the so-called falsetto. He continues:

"If this conclusion be true, and I fail to see how it can be successfully disputed, then the question, What is falsetto? which has always been a puzzle to the physiologist, may be satisfactorily answered. Falsetto is the remains of a voice a portion of which has been wrongly produced, and the wrongly produced portion is not the falsetto itself, as is commonly supposed, but that portion which is known by the name of 'chest voice.' Signor Garcia, in his 'Hints on Singing,' says that falsetto is a remnant of the boy's voice. This is perfectly true, altho the majority of professional singers and many teachers of singing are quite unaware of it. But it is not the whole truth. Falsetto is not only a remnant of the boy's voice, but it is a remnant of the rightly produced voice. Moreover, in every case where it exists as a separate register it is the only rightly produced voice.

"That the theory of voice production which this view involves is a strange and startling theory to propound is not to be denied. But I have brought forward some strange and startling facts, and these facts can not, I believe, be accounted for by any other theory. Nor is this all. Strong and conclusive as these facts appear to me, they are not the only facts by which the theory may be supported. Others may be noted which point plainly in the same direction. There are many musical men who had good voices when they were boys, but have anything but good voices now. These men have a distinct recollection of the kind of voice which they formerly used when they sang soprano as children, and are well aware that, whatever were the mechanical means by which it was produced, the mode of production was exactly the same as that which they would now employ if they wish to produce the voice which is called falsetto. In other words, they are fully conscious of the fact, already referred to, that the falsetto of the present voice is the remains of their former soprano voice, while the voice which they now use both in speaking and in singing is obtained by a mode of production which was not natural to them as children, but was acquired at or about the period of change from boyhood to manhood."

This being the case, Mr. Davidson contends that there is nothing in the mechanism of the larynx to justify a change in the mode of voice-production when the boy-singer becomes a man. He insists, also, that the men singers who possess the best voices did develop them in this way. He anticipates that any amount of ridicule and opposition will be awakened by his statements, but appeals to the facts in confidence that they will support his conclusions.

SCHUBERT'S WEAKNESS AS A MAN AND AS A COMPOSER.

ECHOES from the Schubert centenary (January 31) are reaching us from abroad. The London *Saturday Review* finds in the great song-writer's life as in his music the indications of pathetic weakness and melancholy. We quote from an article in its columns (February 6):

"The music is like the man: the oddest combination of greatness and smallness that the world has seen. Like Wagner and Beethoven, Schubert was strong enough to refuse to earn an honest living; yet he yielded miserably to publishers when discussing the number of halfpence he should receive for a dozen songs. He had energy enough to go on writing operas, but not to see that his librettos were worth setting, or to insure that anything should come of them when they were set. He thought, rightly or wrongly, that he needed more counterpoint, yet continued to compose symphonies and masses without it, vaguely intending to the very end to take lessons from a sound teacher. He had spirit enough to fall in love (so far as stories may be relied on), but not to make the lady promise to marry him, nor yet resolutely to cure himself of his affliction. He had courage to face the truth, as he saw it, and he found life bitter, and not worth enduring; yet he could not renounce it, like Beethoven, nor end it as others have done. And as in actual life, so in his music, having once started anything, he seemed quite unable to make up his mind to fetch it to a conclusion. He was like a man who lets himself roll down a hill because it is easier to keep on rolling than to stop. He repeats his melodies interminably, and then draws a double bar and sets down the two fatal dots which meant that it has all to be played again. If the repeat had not been a favorite resort of lazy composers before his time he would have invented it, not because he was lazy, but because he wanted to go on and could not afford infinite music-paper. Hence his music at its worst is the merest drivel ever set down by a great composer; hence at anything but its best it lacks concentrated passion and dramatic intensity; more than any other composer's it has one prevailing note, a note of deepest melancholy; and therefore when a few pieces are known most of the rest seem barren of what is wanted by those who seek chiefly the human element in music.

"Of his lengthiness, his discursiveness, Schubert might possibly have been cured, but not of his melancholy; it is the very essence of his music, as it was of his being. 'The Wanderer' is his typical song; he was himself the wanderer, straying disconsolately, helplessly, hopelessly through a strange chilly unreal world, singing the saddest and sometimes the sweetest songs that ever entered the ears of men. That his home and his happiness lay close at hand counts for nothing; for he did not and could not know that he was the voice of the eighteenth century, worn out and keenly sensible of the futility of the purely intellectual life. . . .

"His career, if career it can be called, is infinitely touching. His helplessness moves one to pity, odd tho it seems that one in

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some ways so strong should also in so many ways be so weak; and his death was as touching as his life. Of all the composers he met death with least heroism. Mozart, it is true, shrieked hysterically; but death to his diseased mind was merely an indescribable horror; and the fact of his hysteria proves his revolt against fate. Beethoven, during a surgical operation shortly before the end, saw the stream of water and blood flowing from him, and found courage to say 'better from the belly than the pen'; and as he lay dying and a thunderstorm broke above the house he threatened it with his clenched fist. Schubert learnt that he was to die, and turned his face to the wall and did not speak again. It is hard to say whether his music was sadder when he sang of death than when he sang of life. Even in his rare moments of good spirits one catches stray echoes of his prevailing note and realizes how completely his despair dominated him."

Despite this plaintive accent, the writer adds, Schubert's music is saved by its endless flow of melody, and his miraculous facility in extemporizing frequent passages of extraordinary power. While half of his songs are poor, one half of the remainder are "nearly equal to any songs in the world for sweetness, strength, and accurate expressiveness."

THE POET-LAUREATE'S LATEST.

MR. ALFRED AUSTIN has published within the last few weeks "The Conversion of Winckelmann, and Other Poems." As yet the book has received but scant attention from the critics, and those who have reviewed it have not done so in a very flattering way. The London *Spectator* avoids any disrespectful gibes or sneers, and is not without words of praise for his poems of Nature, remarking that he is "always at his best with nature, seldom with man." Of the poem which gives title to the book, which is described as "a study in the school of Browning," *The Spectator* speaks as follows:

"In style it is something between 'Bishop Blougram's Apology' and 'The Bishop Orders his Tomb in St. Praxed's Church.' It has a good deal of the casuistry and apologetic treatment of professional insincerity which we find in the one, and also a good deal of the blatant paganism and voluptuous delight in a pagan form of artistic workmanship which is embodied in the other. It is a clever piece of Browningesque execution, but not a poem in which it is possible to take great pleasure. Winckelmann carries on the living lie of his life to his very last breath, and dies in the odor of sanctity from a wound received from a rival connoisseur to whom he had refused one of his great 'finds' in classical art. We doubt whether it would ever have been written had not Browning set the example of those long versified monologs in which men are supposed to delineate and betray themselves, and had not shown how to make such monologs effective. Still, it is a clever *tour de force*, tho it has but a little of the special flavor of Mr. Browning's curt and very rough-shod genius."

The following *The Spectator* thinks is the "most taking" poem in the volume and exhibits Mr. Austin at his best:

THE SILENT MUSE.

When slowly through the noonday sleep
  A phantom something seems to stir,
Like waves of dewy light that creep
  Along gray chords of gossamer.

At first it is nor sight nor sound,
  But feeling only, inward sense
Of motion slowly rising round.
  You know not where, you know not whence.

Then, noiseless still, but plain to see,
  The languid waters wake and wind;
The wave before now fears to be
  O'ertaken by the wave behind.

The race, long pent, from out the mill
  Comes rushing, rippling, gleam on gleam;
The runnels rise, the shallows fill,
  And deep and happy flows the stream.

. . . . . .

And so, if I be shaped to sing
  What kindly hearts are pleased to hear,
And blissful were, did Nature bring
  A rush of music all the year;

Seasons there are it doth not flow,
  When Fancy's freshets will not come,
The springs of song seem shrunk and low,
  And all my being dry and dumb.

When suddenly from far-off source,
  Unseen, unsounding, deep, immense,
Something, with swift resistless force,
  Flushes the heart and floods the sense;

And as tho Heaven and earth did drain
  Into that deep mysterious spring,
Brims all the windings of the brain;
  Then like replenished stream I sing.

The London *Sketch* is disposed to be satirical. Here is what its "Literary Lounger" has to say of the book:

"The laureate is facing the fact that he is the servant of the nation, and that the nation has little unity in its poetical taste. He may share his personal esthetic pleasures with a select few, but he knows that the great heart of the public does not care a jot for the conscience-struggles of a Winckelmann, tempted by such remote and chilly things as marbles, intaglios, and gems. He is resolved to be the mouthpiece of the many, the echo of their heart. And so we have this simple appeal to the primitive instinct of love of country, in 'Praise of England'—

If you would put it to the proof,
  Then round the zodiac roam;
But never will you find the roof
  To match an English home.
You hear the sound of children's feet
  Still pattering on the stair;
'Tis made by loving labor sweet,
  And sanctified by prayer.

"Will the British workman accept this as a hymn for his fireside, or has his home circle been spoilt by literary education at the board school, grown a little too fastidious, and learnt to distinguish the maudlin from the pathetic? It is an amiable mistake on the part of the laureate to wish to include what will appeal to the meanest intelligence, but it causes misapprehension, and in future the patriotic and domestic songs in this strain should be printed separately. Some of the societies for the promotion of perfectly harmless literature might give him a hint as to the popular styles of binding, etc., and might even find out for him where such things circulate and are blessed."

The Sketch ridicules also the poem "How Florence Rings her Bells," which is described as "a perfectly unique specimen of a courtier and a poet at bay, but still courageous."

The Evening Post (New York) sums up the book as follows: "All that is not poet-laureate in it is excellent. All that is, is the poorest of Mr. Austin's total output of verse." It proceeds to comment on his position and to give him advice as follows:

"It would be a blessing if his Pegasus kicked off its harness, tho its rider got a fall in the process. He would rise a freer man and a better poet. He shows a disposition to throw some of the blame of his recent misfortunes on the public or on secret enemies. The lines which bring the volume to a close form quite a curiosity of self-deception of this kind. They amount to this, that when he is betrayed by the crowd he finds consolation in thinking on the woes of his sovereign:

When friends grow faithless, or the fickle throng,
Withdrawing from my life the love they lent,
Breed in my heart disdainful discontent,
And sadden sunshine with a sense of wrong,
Then I, forgetting to be wise and strong,
And on my own endearment too intent,
Unto myself make musical lament,
And lullaby my pain with plaintive song.
But, when I gaze upon this face august,
Her gift, who, seated on earth's loftiest throne,
For others' weal holds half the world in trust,
Pondering on cares of empire all alone,
I, then rebuked, remember to be just,
Think of her griefs, and quite forget my own.

It is what the Americans would call a pretty tall order in comparisons."

OLIVE SCHREINER, the author of "The Story of an African Farm," is about to publish a new book, not a novel, but apparently a book descriptive of South African life on the line pursued in her recent magazine articles.

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SCIENCE.

A VOLCANO AS A WEATHER-PROPHET.

UNDER the heading "Stromboli as a Weather-Prophet," *Gaea* (Leipsic, September) publishes an interesting notice from which we learn that this volcano has been used from the earliest times, both by mariners and by those who live in its vicinity, as a means of predicting the weather. A recent exhaustive study of the subject, while it does not confirm quite all that has been claimed for the volcano in this line, amply justifies the confidence that has been placed in it. Probably other volcanoes of the same class would give equally trustworthy indications, and it may be that nature has thus been furnishing us with a means of local weather-prediction that has been somewhat neglected. We translate below the article referred to:

"Among the Lipari Islands, between Sicily and Calabria, Stromboli is the best known on account of its active volcano, 921 meters [3,000 feet] high. Even in ancient times this served the sailors of the Tyrrhenian Sea as a weather-sign. Pliny relates that the inhabitants of the island could tell from the smoke of the volcano what the direction of the wind would be, and Martianus Capella says that the king of the island was Æolus, who knew the changes of the wind from its flame and vapor. These tales are true in so far as the smoke-column of the volcano, ascending, as it does, far into the upper air, can give indication of the air currents that prevail there, before these have made themselves felt on the ground. Later on, Stromboli became still better known as a weather-prophet, and Dolomieu, who in 1781 visited the Lipari Islands, tells us that in general this volcano is noticeably more active in winter than in summer, and also more active on the approach of stormy weather than in a calm. Spallanzani, who visited Stromboli in 1788, investigated the weather indications that the inhabitants had derived from the volume of smoke and the brightness of the flame of the volcano, and found by actual observation in seven cases that these rules for the most part were not trustworthy. The well-known expert in vulcanology, Poulett Scrope, was led to believe in a connection between the activity of Stromboli and the atmospheric pressure, because an alteration of this pressure must alter the balance of the expansive forces in and under the crater. Judd also regards it as beyond doubt that in stormy weather, and especially in winter, the eruption of Stromboli is most violent, and he cites the testimony of the islanders in favor of this. The same opinion is held by Mercalli, who ascribes to meteorological conditions a preponderant influence on the activity of the volcano. Quite recently Alfred Berget of Munich has taken up the question anew, and in 1894 he made a long geological study of the Æolian Islands. In a paper in the Proceedings of the German Geological Society, he describes his own observations on the alleged connection between the changes of atmospheric pressure and the activity of Stromboli, from which it appears that such a relationship is unrecognizable. Moreover, he has compared all the eruptions of Stromboli since 1881 with the condition of the atmospheric pressure, and has found that there is no evidence for the hypothesis that the energy of the volcano increases with diminution of the pressure, nor can any lowering of activity be shown to follow upon a rise of the barometer. Finally, he also found that the list of eruptions given by Mercalli can not safely be depended upon. He also carried out a theoretical investigation of the subject, that led him to the conclusion that no noteworthy influence on the activity of the crater can be ascribed to the pressure of the atmosphere, altho it has been regarded by some as a natural barometer. But how about the popular belief, which regards Stromboli as a weather-prophet? Dr. Bergert answers this question as follows. He notes that this belief has to do only with the smoke that issues from the volcano. It is, he says, water vapor, which seems to envelop the summit of the volcano as a cloud. If moist masses of air blow over Stromboli, the vapor that rises from the volcano will become more clearly visible than when dry winds are blowing in the upper regions of the air. In this way the volcano acts as a very sensitive hygroscope and at the same time as a weather-vane also, and by the combination of its indications . . . skilful mariners have for a long time been able to derive trustworthy prognostications of the weather. 'When the air is moist,' says Dr. Bergert, 'if the cloud of vapor over the volcano's summit is thicker, the reflection from the light that shines upward through the crater will also be more evident, which was probably what gave rise to the idea that the volcano is more active in stormy than in clear weather.' The question by what conditions the eruption of the volcano is influenced is at present not to be answered with certainty. Bergert believes that Mercalli was right when he regarded the varying activity of such a volcano as Stromboli to depend chiefly on the stoppage of the lava-channel and the subsequent clearing out of it. Bergert expresses the hope that an observatory may be established on the isle of Æolus for the special observation of its volcano, so that the action of meteorological causes may be clearly separated from other influences on the varying activity of the volcano."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE COCAIN HABIT.

ACCORDING to *The British Medical Journal*, the cocain habit is on the increase, and is fostered by well-meaning persons who do not understand the nature of preparations of coca. It says:

"There can be no doubt that in many parts of the world cocain inebriety is largely on the increase. Many writers speak of it as the third scourge of humanity, alcohol and morphin being the first and second. The greatest number of victims is to be found among society women and among women who have adopted literature as a profession; and there is no doubt that a considerable proportion of chronic cocainists have fallen under the dominion of the drug from a desire to stimulate their powers of imagination. Others have acquired that habit quite innocently from taking coca wines fortified with salts of the alkaloid in solution. . . . The symptoms experienced by the victims of the cocain habit are illusions of sight and hearing, neuromuscular irritability, and localized anesthesia. After a time insomnia supervenes, and the patient displays a curious hesitancy and an inability to arrive at a decision on even the most trivial matter. In Paris the use of the hypodermic syringe for the administration of both cocain and morphin is extremely common, and there are establishments to which ladies of fashion resort periodically in order to have the accustomed stimulant administered. One drug habit rapidly engenders another, and the victim of chronic cocainism is usually addicted to overindulgence in alcohol, besides being a confirmed cigarette-smoker. . . . Stringent measures should be taken to stamp out an evil which, if once established, is difficult to eradicate. Coca wines made from cocain, and cocain lozenges and tablets, should be supplied with the utmost caution, and there should be a distinct understanding that prescriptions containing cocain should not be dispensed a second time without being reinitialed by the prescriber."

In a subsequent issue the same paper resumes the subject, touching especially on the innocent and well-intentioned administration of coca, as follows:

"We find that coca wine and other medicated wines are largely sold to people who are considered, and consider themselves, to be total-abstainers. It is not uncommon to hear the mother of a family say, 'I never allow my girls to touch stimulants of any kind, but I give them each a glass of coca wine at eleven in the morning, and again at bedtime.' Originally coca wine was made from coca leaves, but it is now commonly a solution of the alkaloid in a sweet and usually strongly alcoholic wine. . . . Not long ago a physician reported that he had experienced considerable inconvenience from taking a glass of standardized coca wine which he had mistaken for an innocuous beverage. Still more recently we have been furnished with details of the case of a man who, thinking to abjure the use of alcoholic stimulants, drank coca wine so freely that he died of delirium tremens. Schoolmistresses as a rule have a deep-rooted belief in the efficacy of the popular drug, and give it to their pupils on the slightest provocation, in complete ignorance of the fact that they are establishing a liking not only for alcohol but for the far more insidious and pernicious poison cocain. The child who is the innocent victim of cocainism is wayward in disposition, is restless and disturbed at night, and is incapable of prolonged application. The mania

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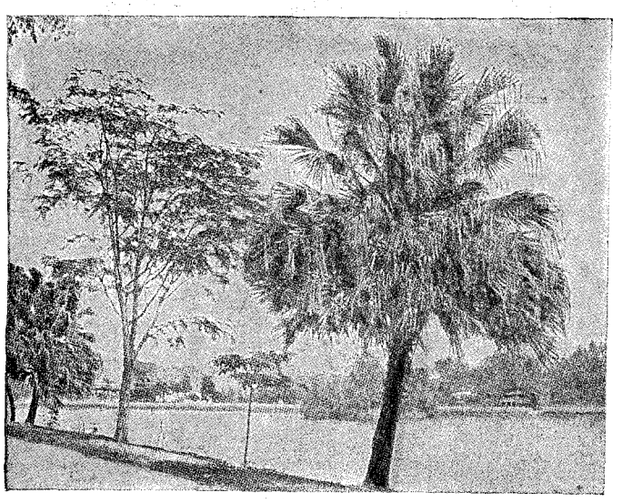
for taking narcotic stimulants is widespread, and is a distinct source of danger to the national health. It is difficult to say at present what steps should be taken, but it is obvious that at no distant date some restriction will have to be placed on the sale of coca wine and its congeners."

SOME UNFAMILIAR TEXTILE FIBERS.

THE majority of people have the idea that practically the only animal or vegetable fibers used to make textile fabrics are those with which we are familiar in this country, namely, wool, flax, cotton, and silk, with perhaps one or two others, such as jute. The fact is that the number of fibers so used runs up into the thousands. We are told something about a few of the most important by W. S. Gavey (*The Textile World*, February). Says Mr. Gavey:

"When it is taken into consideration that there are over a thousand different species of palm, each of which furnishes fiber in some particular part of the world, the immense number of fibers is accounted for in a measure. Of course some of these fibers are



THE CHUSAN-PALM.

used more extensively than others, and among those which are used largely is that obtained from the screw-pine.

"This plant is a member of the *Pandanus* family, and is found in different types in various parts of the world, but is extremely abundant on the coral islands of the Pacific and in Bengal.

"The species shown in the illustration is a plant of the *Pandanaceæ adoratissimus;* it is found principally in Bourbon and Mauritius, the southern parts of India, and the Straits Settlements. It is chiefly remarkable for its gigantic leaves, which while being extremely long are comparatively narrow in width. The leaves follow the main stalk of the tree around, in the shape of a spiral staircase, hence the name 'screw-pine.'

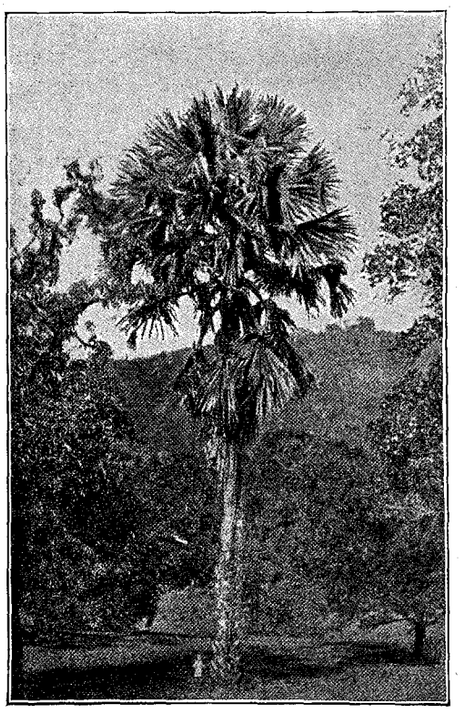
"They are composed almost entirely of tough, longitudinal fibers, which are exceedingly white and glossy, and are used in the manufacture of clothing, mats, cordage, bagging, etc. The fiber is extracted by splitting the leaves into ribbons three quarters to an inch in breadth, tapering to a point. Much of the fiber is used in the manufacture of sacking for transporting sugar.

"In Mauritius the plant grows to a height of thirty feet and is remarkable for its aerial roots, which it sends down as supports for its stem. The tree illustrated has had these roots removed, but their position on the stem is shown by the excrescences on either side.

"These roots are of so fibrous a nature that they are employed for making paint-brushes. The principal use of the fiber of both leaves and roots is as a mixture, in conjunction with jute fiber, but it would also make an excellent paper stock.

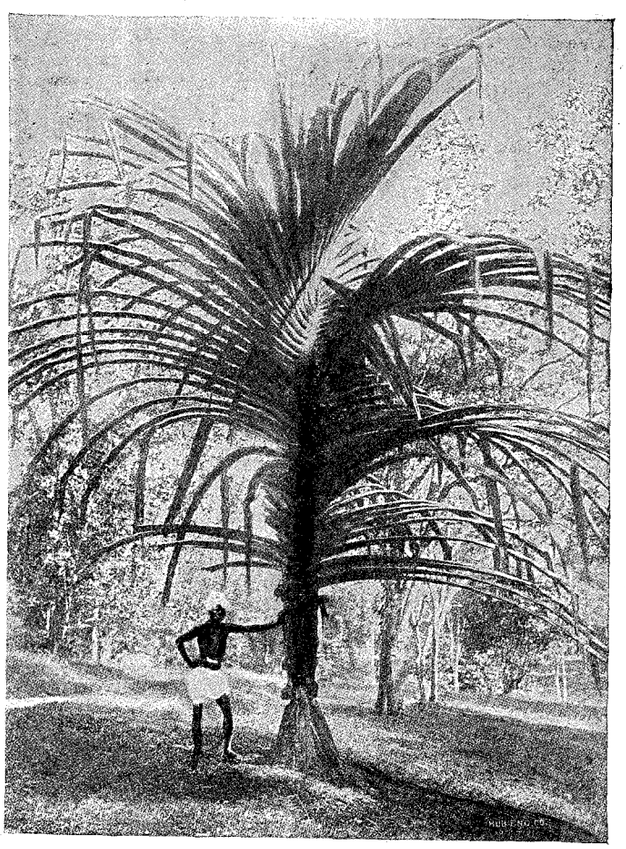
"TALIPOT PALM.—While this is the most beautiful of the East India palms, it is also the most useful. *Corypha umbraculifera*, as the talipot palm is called scientifically, is a native of the East Indies, Malabar, and Ceylon.

"The views from which the illustrations are produced were taken in Ceylon, and show the straight cylindrical trunk of this palm rising to a height of 60 to 100 feet, the top covered with the



THE TALIPOT-PALM.

enormous leaves, which are divided at the ends into many points, each leaf being connected with the trunk by narrow spiny stalks.



THE SCREW-PINE.

"The enormous size of the leaves is the wonder of this tree; they are usually 18 feet long exclusive of the connecting stalk and

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14 feet broad, and their immense size can best be imagined when the statement is made that each leaf will protect from fifteen to twenty men. These leaves are full of fiber which is used in the manufacture of shirts, hats, baskets, netting, and clothing. At the age of thirty to forty years the tree flowers and then dies."

Mr. Gavey next describes the Chusan-palm or hemp-palm of China, a species of palmetto, which is found chiefly in the island whose name it bears. He says:

"It is a fan-leaved palm, and grows to the height of twelve or fifteen feet. The leaves become strongly fibrous as the tree increases in age, and the farmers of northern China make coats and hats of this fiber. They are used only in wet weather and serve the purpose of a mackintosh. These garments have a very Robinson Crusoe appearance. . . . This fiber is also used for making ropes and cables which are very durable, even when exposed to water. There is also a species of hair or tow which grows on the trunk, and this is used by the Chinese in the manufacture of clothing, coarse stuffs, and cordage."

TRANSPARENCY OF SEA-WATER AT GREAT DEPTHS.

SOME recent investigations on this subject, made possible by the advances in photography, are described by M. A. Berthier in *Cosmos* (Paris, February 13). We translate below the principal paragraphs of his account, and also reproduce the pictures that accompany it:

"The scientific applications of photography can scarcely be numbered. There is now hardly a subject that this art, which is at the same time a science, has not succeeded in illuminating, and by doing so it has rendered the most signal service. . . . The method followed is almost always the same, and the purely photographic part is certainly extremely simple. A sensitive plate is exposed in certain conditions characteristic of the experiment; but this plate, except in rare cases, is always the same, that is to say, no special research is necessary in connection with it, and no special preparation, since it can be obtained cheaply of any dealer, and its development offers no great difficulties. The interesting part of the application of photography, then, does not lie in the photographic operations or manipulations themselves, but rather in the more or less ingenious dispositions that are utilized to obtain the impression of such or such an object on the sensitive layer; and this disposition is variable with different cases."

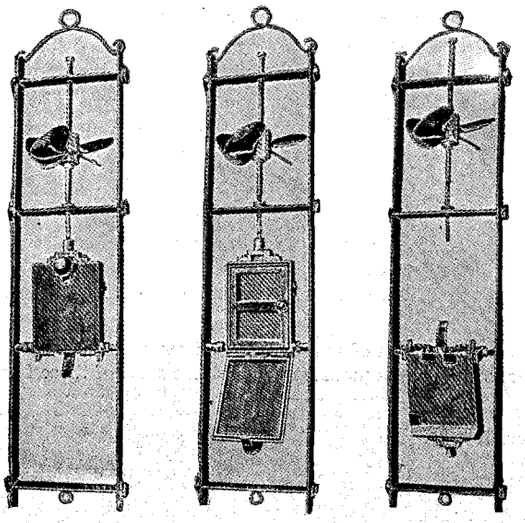
As instances of this variability and adaptability the author mentions chronophotography or the photography of rapid movement, X-ray photography, etc. He goes on:

"We shall note here the new device of a German scientist. The object sought differs notably from that which has been attained by the disciples of Marey and Muybridge, but the manner in which the problem has been solved is no less ingenious.

"The object was to determine the transparency of sea-water.

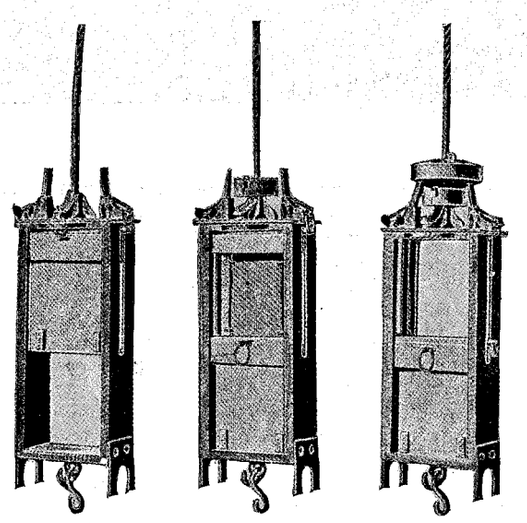
"This study has been several times taken up by different physicists. It presents some rather serious difficulties. The experiments of Messrs. Lacaze-Duthiers and Boutan on the zoological-laboratory steamer *Arago* are well known. A photographic apparatus, preferably one of these little devices that allow of the taking of several pictures in succession . . . is enclosed in an oblong square-cornered metal box. Windows of plain glass set in copper rings are fixed on each of the faces of the apparatus, corresponding to the lenses of the camera. Two handles, placed on the outside, allow of communication with the interior by means of push-buttons that work the shutter and the plate-holder.

"Such is Boutan's apparatus for submarine photography. It is very evident that it may serve for the study of the transparency of the water, altho, not being designed for this special purpose, it does not give sufficiently precise results. By following another method, Messrs. Chun-Petersen and I. Luksch, professor at the Fiume Naval School, have devised irreproachable apparatus. The principle of both is the following: a sensitive plate, enclosed in a perfectly tight receptacle, is let down into the sea to a given depth, then exposed for a certain time, and finally hauled up to the surface and developed in the laboratory. If the development gives a hazy plate, it is concluded that the plate has felt the influence of the light, and from the thickness of the haze the intensity of this light is deduced. When the plate remains perfectly transparent, this indicates either that the duration of the exposure was too short or that it was made at a depth where the intensity of the light was too feeble to decompose the emulsion on the plate."



CHUN-PETERSEN'S APPARATUS.

The author then proceeds to describe in detail both the devices mentioned, whose workings will be sufficiently clear from the illustrations. In the Chun-Petersen apparatus, the plate-holder is closed when it descends, as shown in the first part of the figure; it is then given a jerk, which turns the screw-propeller and makes



LUKSCH'S APPARATUS.

the exposure, as shown in the second part, and then it is hauled up, turning the screw still further and letting the plate-holder drop over and close as shown in the third part. In Luksch's apparatus, the exposure is made by sending a sliding weight down the line, as shown in the second part of the figure, and the holder is closed by sliding down a larger weight, which acts on a different set of levers. M. Berthier tells us something of the results of experiments with these devices, as follows:

"The Luksch apparatus was used with success in the researches undertaken on board the *Pola* for the Vienna Academy of Sciences. It was found that daylight penetrates to a depth of 500 meters [1,640 feet] in the sea, and that an exposure of ten minutes was necessary at this depth. The experiments are being carried on elsewhere and they will certainly be productive of interesting results regarding the conditions of existence at great depths."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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SOME PHOTOGRAPHIC MYSTERIES.

SOME unexplained mysteries of photography, most of which seem to depend on some previous exposure of a plate, without the owner's knowledge, either to light or to some form of chemically active dark radiation, are thus described in *The American Journal of Photography* (February):

"It is no uncommon experience to find upon new plates certain images for which there seems no possible explanation, their startling and unaccountable appearance being 'wropt in mistry,' causing astonishment not unmixed with uncanny feeling. A gentleman made an exposure upon the interior of a friend's house; he was doubtful of the time, and proceeded to develop for underexposure; to his great surprise the plate developed quickly, and to his greater surprise the image was an interior quite different from that upon which he had exposed. The plate was from a fresh box and could not possibly have had a previous exposure. Another instance of the kind, having quite a sensational and tragic ending, is on record. An exposure was made upon a view having a river in the foreground. The photographer, while developing this peculiar plate, was perfectly astounded by an appearance which he had not seen while taking the photograph, and for which he could in no way account. On completing the development there was plainly revealed, in the foreground of the picture, the figure of a woman, apparently floating upright in the water. Not many weeks after, to complete the mystery, the body of a woman was found in the river at the exact spot where the photograph had been taken. Again, not long since, the daily papers were agitated over the account of a traveling photographer, who, upon making an exposure upon the exterior of a reputed haunted house, discovered at one of the windows a portrait of the murdered man through whom the house had gained its evil name. In another case three distinct images, having no connection one with the other, were impressed upon a single film. The plate was exposed upon a garden in the evening—nothing remarkable being seen—but when placed in the developer a man's hat of old-fashioned shape, a child's dress, and a dog were distributed over the image of the garden. Such mysterious images were more common in the days of wet plates than now. A few years back Professor Burton investigated the matter. Upon tracing back the history of the glass he found that it had been used for other films, and that the images which appeared undoubtedly arose from the remains of previous images. Tho old glass was thus proved to be the source of the ghosts, it only deepened the scientific mystery, while it cleared away the supernatural. The glass traced by Burton had been washed for some weeks, immersed in strong nitric acid, and every means taken to insure chemical cleanliness, yet, in spite of all this, enough energy remained latent to form a developable image upon the new film, whether by chemical or physical force remains to be discovered. A complete solution of the difficulty would probably throw considerable light upon the nature of photographical images in general; at least, it seems to indicate that light is not absolutely essential in the formation of latent images in a sensitive film."

Recent Discoveries about Electric Waves.—Certain as most physicists are that electric waves and light waves are one and the same thing, differing only in length, they have never yet been able to produce the "missing link" that connects them. The chasm grows narrower and narrower, however, and the shortest electric wave is now much closer to the longest infra-red wave of the spectrum than it was a year ago. Says *The Electrical World*, in chronicling some recent work on the subject: "Those who have kept in touch with the progress made in the study of electric waves were doubtless much interested in the paper read by Professor Bose last fall before the Liverpool meeting of the British Association, in which he described a complete apparatus for the study of electric waves. Professor Bose pointed out that he had succeeded in obtaining a wave-length as small as six millimeters, or about one fortieth of the length which Hertz obtained in his pioneer investigations in this line of research. By means of the apparatus which he devised, Professor Bose was able to study with electric waves all the phenomena associated with light. According to our London contemporaries, this paper has been supplemented by a lecture at the Royal Institution, in which Professor Bose showed that any number of crystals, such as beryl, selenite, and cryolite, and to some extent tourmaline, are polarizers of electric waves. To these may be added vegetable fibers, such as common jute and even human hair. The fact that ordinary crystals act as polarizers of electric waves indicated to Professor Bose that their conductivity is different in different directions. Upon investigation he has found that this difference may amount to fourteen times as much in one direction as in another."

The Handy Electric Locomotive.—According to E. H. Mullin, the new electric locomotives that are coming into use for switching purposes are proving their superiority over steam in many ways, some of which he expatiates upon in the passages quoted below (*Cassier's Magazine*, February):

"The most striking thing about the behavior of the electric locomotive is the certainty with which it may be moved over short distances varying from a few inches to a few feet. The obedience of the motors to the controller is practically instantaneous, thus doing away at one stroke with one of the chief drawbacks to steam switching-engines, with which there is a noticeable delay between the time when the throttle-valve is opened and the pistons begin to move, in this way often causing the engineer, no matter how careful he may be, to overshoot his mark.

"This delay in action, while generally only a few seconds in each case, mounts up seriously in the course of a whole day's work, and is the chief cause of the proverbial lateness of freight-trains which have much switching to do at intermediate stations. From the fact that the movement of the electric locomotive can be graduated so nicely, a full third of the time usually occupied by steam locomotives can be saved, particularly as single empty cars unprovided with automatic couplings need never be bunted off by too rapid an approach of the engine, as frequently happens under switching conditions as they now are."

Coal Analysis with the Roentgen Ray.—Since the discovery of the X rays, it has been proposed to utilize them in some way or other in nearly every existing art and science, often in ways that are palpably absurd. A more sensible suggestion than some of these was made recently in a paper read by Caryl D. Haskins before the Northwestern Electrical Association at Milwaukee. Mr. Haskins proposes to use the rays in the rough analysis of samples of coal. Says he in the paper to which we have referred:

"It is my belief that quite successful rough analyses of coals can be accomplished by means of the fluoroscope. The density of the shadow of a coal sample viewed through a fluoroscope is dependent upon the percentage of ash, and by matching the shadow of the sample under investigation with that of a sample of coal of similar size and thickness, and with a known percentage of ash, speedy and probably quite accurate results may be obtained."

Commenting on this suggestion *Electricity* says on its editorial page (February 17):

"To those unfamiliar with the chemistry of steel this proposition may seem visionary and impracticable, but to the steel metallurgist it will appear merely as an extension of methods long employed by him."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

NATURAL gas has been decided by the courts to be a mineral, it having been found by the United States circuit court that the natural gas piped from Shirkstown, Canada, to Buffalo, N. Y., is not subject to duty because it is within the definition of "crude minerals."

RAILROADS IN RUSSIA.—"Outside of the Siberian Railroad extensive improvements are to be made in Russian railroads," says *The Engineering and Mining Journal*. "The Ministry of Ways and Communication intends to order this year 455 new locomotives, 300 passenger-cars, 200 oil-tank cars, and 10,000 freight-cars. About $5,000,000 will be spent in building new branch lines."

THOSE who wish to retain good health should follow these rules, according to *The Medical News*: "Eat fruit for breakfast and for luncheon. Avoid pastry. Shun muffins and crumpets and buttered toast. Eat wholemeal bread. Decline potatoes if they are served more than once a day. Do not drink tea or coffee. Walk four miles every day. Take a bath every day. Wash the face every night in warm water and sleep eight hours."

IT appears from 6,456 kinds of fear described by Pres. G. Stanly Hall in a recent study of the subject, says *The Boston Transcript*, "that thunderstorms are feared most, that reptiles follow, with strangers and darkness as close seconds, while fire, death, domestic animals, disease, wild animals, water, ghosts, insects, rats and mice, robbers, high winds, dream-fears, cats and dogs, cyclones, solitude, drowning, birds, etc., represent decreasing degrees of fearfulness."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

DOCTOR BUCKLEY AS A "HERETIC."

THE religious journals are having some amusement at the expense of the secular press over the serious treatment given by the latter to the report of Dr. James M. Buckley's "heresy." At a recent meeting of the Methodist preachers in and around New York city, Dr. Buckley (editor of *The Christian Advocate*), in discussing a paper read by Dr. Curtis, took occasion to say that there were not four men in the room who believed in the infallibility of *the English version* of the Scriptures. The statement being challenged, he called for a vote; but the meeting adjourned without its being taken.

In the recent number of his paper, under the title "The Sensations of an Alleged Heretic," Dr. Buckley writes as follows:

"Never before have we discerned, except by observation and imagination, the peculiar fascination which the charge of heresy brings to budding genius. But to-day (Tuesday, February 16) the writer has had an inside view, and can forever sympathize with the joys of the obscure youth who exclaimed with delight to his sweetheart: 'Now my congregation will swell. The papers have called me a heretic!' For the writer happened to say what John Wesley and Adam Clarke said many years before he was born, that the *English* version of the Bible is not absolutely infallible; and nothing since the last prize-fight has attracted so much attention in this vicinity.

"The infidels hold out the olive branch, the 'liberal Christians' (those who believe what pleases them, and remand the rest to myth, parable, or allegory) compliment the lofty intelligence that could discern that King James's translators were not as pens in the hand of Deity (though they confess their fallibility in the introduction to their work).

"The writer also said that there is not an original manuscript in the world, all existing ones being copies; hence that the extant ones could not be compared with them; but the reporters did not get hold of that.

"On cars, steam and electric and cable, men gazed at us, that never glanced our way before, and ever and anon we heard such words as 'progressive,' 'liberal,' 'up to date.'

"Alas for the transitoriness of popularity based on the emphatic utterance of a truism old as the centuries! Yet the incident shows what a great fire in combustible materials a little matter kindleth."

The church papers that comment on the matters sustain the Doctor's position as tho it were a matter of course. *Zion's Herald* (Meth. Episc., Boston) says "that any man should be charged with heresy by the secular press for saying that the English version of the Bible is not infallible, and that no original manuscript of the Bible is in existence, evinces a state of ignorance which is as amazing as it is painful." The Pittsburg *Christian Advocate* (Meth. Episc.) says:

"Doctor Buckley will be supported by almost all the ministry of the church—we think by all of it. In fact, we know of none who will dispute his position. To affirm the infallibility of the English version is to declare the inspiration of the translators and therefore their infallibility. These men must have received the guidance of the Holy Spirit in translation just as the writers of the Scriptures did in writing them, and this is pushing inspiration beyond anything we have ever heard. The inspiration of the original documents is all the friends of the Bible claim."

The Journal and Messenger (Baptist, Cincinnati) thinks that "the only remarkable thing about this is that Dr. Buckley should have occasion to say it."

The American Israelite, however, tells of a class of Jews who hold to a position similar to that which is scouted in the above extracts. We quote its editorial as follows:

"It may be entirely new to our readers that anybody should believe in the infallibility of translation which at best could rest upon the authority of common consent only. Yet something similar had been believed among the Hellenistic Jews in regard to the Septuagint. The translators became inspired men in the myths—also in the Talmud—which refer to their work; and the Targum of Onkelos to the Torah was almost canonized by the Rabbinical Jews, so that it became a law that every one should read for himself the Pentateuchal section . . . twice he should read the original, and once the Targum, the Aramaic translation. When Moses Mendelssohn's purely German translation of the Torah was published, there were some of our orthodox shepherds on hand to place the ban on that book, simply because it superseded the Aramaic Targum. Abraham Ibn Ezra and Rashi as early as the twelfth century pointed in all doubtful cases to that Targum as the ultimate authority in expounding Scriptures. . . . On the whole, however, the Jews acknowledged no authorized version of Scriptures. It is supposed that every Jew knows the Hebrew language. If he does not, he is obliged to rely upon the authority of others."

EXCOMMUNICATION OF ANIMALS.

THE absolute moral distinction between man and the brute creation has always been regarded as a fundamental Christian doctrine. Man has a soul to be saved; animals have none. Yet the Christian Church, and especially the Roman Catholic branch of it, has been accused of inconsistency, inasmuch as it seems to acknowledge in certain cases that animals may be morally responsible for their acts. A noteworthy case is that of the excommunication of animals, formerly common in Catholic countries, and still occasionally practised. In *Cosmos*, a journal at once scientific and orthodox, M. Laverune (September 12) attempts to defend the Roman Catholic Church from this charge, and to explain the practise of excommunication, apparently countenancing, in so doing, some rather medieval opinions on the subject of demoniac possession. Says M. Laverune:

"The writers most in favor of the theory of evolution as applied to the origin of man are all obliged to recognize that there exists between man and the animals an abyss that no kind of transition can span. Thus Huxley, after having affirmed that between the animal kingdom and ourselves the anatomical line of demarkation is not more profound than between the animals themselves, adds that all attempts to establish a psychical distinction is equally futile; but he hastens to contradict himself, for he writes, several lines further on: 'But at the same time no one is more strongly convinced than I of the immensity of the gulf that exists between civilized man and the animals; no one is more certain than I that whether he is or is not descended from them, he certainly is not one of them; no one is less disposed than I to treat lightly the present dignity, or to despair of the future, of the only being in the world with intelligent consciousness.'

"Man, whatever may have been his origin, is then, even in Huxley's opinion, the only being in the world that possesses conscious intelligence.

"A celebrated physiologist, Professor Lordat, has said jokingly: 'The materialists reduce man to the level of the beasts.' We may say, on the other hand, of them and of certain evolutionists, that they wish to raise animals by attributing to them intellectual faculties that make them approach man, and to make veritable brothers out of these poor and distant relatives of ours.

"Thus there have been largely attributed to animals an intelligent consciousness and even a degree of responsibility that, on the other hand, a certain criminological school refuses even to man.

"Several years ago, Professor Lacassagne of Lyons read before a scientific congress a communication on the criminality of animals.

"What is a crime? It is not simply an act so denominated by law, but an act that is performed in violation of certain higher principles. A hen that eats her own eggs may thus, with some show of reason, be compared to a mother who kills her child. Comparison, however, is not logic, and if we may establish numerous ingenious analogies on this subject, as the learned professor has done, it is impossible to prove any true likeness between the acts of animals and human crimes. There is no crime except when there is a lack of observance of a recognized law,

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and the only thing of this kind that can be studied among animals is the departure from discipline among domestic animals, dogs and cats for instance, as when they steal food that does not belong to them.

"This thesis of the responsibility or criminality of animals has been upheld on the authority of texts of Scripture and of certain religious practises.

"'If an ox gore a man or a woman so that he die, the ox shall be stoned to death and his flesh shall not be eaten, but the owner of the ox shall be held innocent. But if the ox has already been accustomed to gore for a long time, and the owner could have prevented it, and yet did not, and the ox kill a man or a woman, then the ox shall be stoned and the owner put to death.'

"This extract from the Mosaic law signifies simply that, altho the ox is not responsible, he must be killed as a dangerous animal. His master is to be punished only in case it is proved that he could have prevented the injury.

"There have also been recalled to mind, in this connection, the excommunications that bishops have on many occasions launched against snails, caterpillars, and grasshoppers. This practise is still in vogue in Corsica.

"The word 'excommunication' is to be taken in a very wide sense; it is a synonym in such a case of 'expulsion,' 'anathema,' or 'malediction.'

"Just as the church blesses beings and objects destined for man's service, such as fruits, houses, vessels, locomotives, so she curses those that are injurious to him. Benedictions and maledictions are only prayers addressed to God, the sovereign Master of nature, with the object of obtaining from Him protection from the accidents, the evils, the catastrophes of which man might be the victim through the action of the thing blessed or cursed. In the special case with which we are concerned, the excommunication of injurious animals was only a prayer addressed to God, under the form of a sentence pronounced against these animals, enjoining them in God's name to retire from the regions into which they had brought devastation and death.

"The following is the text of a formula of excommunication against worms or mice, that proves the truth of this interpretation.

"'I adjure you, pestiferous worms [or mice] by God the Father . . . that ye presently retire from these waters [fields, or vines] nor inhabit them any more, but that ye pass to those places in which ye may be able to harm no one; and I curse you in the name of the omnipotent God and of all the heavenly host and of God's holy church, that wherever ye go ye may be accursed and day by day dwindle away . . .'

"In other cases this excommunication is an exorcism. The author of a very interesting work on this question [Alexis Arduin, "Criminality among Animals," Paris, 1882] writes thus on the subject.

"'The church has always believed, and yet believes, that the devil exerts a certain power over irrational creatures, and that by this power he can injure men in health, in temporal goods, and even in life, by means of the creatures in which he has, so to speak, incarnated his maleficent power. Hence the frequent exorcisms employed by the church. Before administering baptism she drives the devil from the infant's body by an exorcism; when she blesses holy water she first exorcises the water and the salt and adjures the devil to abandon all power over them. When a pestilence rages in a country and manifests itself under the form of an invasion of grasshoppers, rats, worms, or other noxious creatures, it is logical to think that this plague comes from the act of the devil, exerting his maleficent power by means of these creatures. The church, by virtue of the power that she derives from God, adjures the demon to cease his ravages; she gives her orders in God's name, and she naturally addresses directly the creatures that the evil spirit has employed as the tools of his hate, by whose means he manifests his influence.'

"These practises of the church imply in no way a belief in the moral culpability of animals.

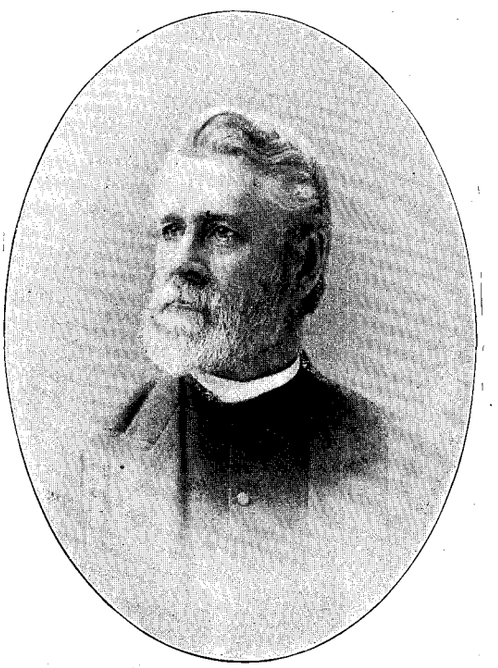
"Man has succeeded in training animals, and by their fear of physical pain sometimes makes them perform acts opposed to their natural instinct; but the animal that thus obeys does not acquire virtue; it is incapable of merit or guilt, and, as Thomas Reid says:

"'Animals can not be immoral any more than virtuous. Common sense revolts against it, and the man who should seriously accuse his dog of a crime would cover himself with ridicule.'

"Comparative criminology, then, will never succeed in bridging the abyss that separates *homo sapiens* from the animals."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

PROFESSOR BRIGGS ON THE BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT.

PROF. CHARLES A. BRIGGS, D.D., whose inaugural address a few years ago, when installed in the chair which he still fills in the Union Theological Seminary, had such an important bearing on the affairs both of the Seminary and the Presbyterian Church, handles the Old Testament with at least as much



PROFESSOR CHARLES A. BRIGGS, LL.D.

freedom as that displayed by Dr. Lyman Abbott in his recent course of sermons. Professor Briggs writes in the latest number of *The North American Review* on "Works of the Imagination in the Old Testament," and six pages of the article are devoted to the book of Jonah, the conclusions reached being almost, if not quite, identical with those for which Dr. Abbott has been so severely criticised in the last few weeks.

Professor Briggs begins his article as follows:

"The Bible is a marvel of literature. It is the book of God containing a divine revelation to mankind. It is also the book for man, in which devout souls in all ages guided by the divine Spirit have drawn near unto God, and have opened up the paths to the divine presence. The Bible contains codes of law, but it is not a law-book for ecclesiastical lawyers. The Bible contains statements of doctrine as bright as the rays of the sun and as clear as a mountain brook, but it is not a system of theology for dogmatic divines. The Bible contains laws and doctrines, but it also contains more than laws and doctrines. It gives a divine revelation for all classes of people, for all races, and for all nations. It is for the merchant and the physician, for the father and the mother, the young man and the maiden, the child and the peasant; and therefore it approaches all these classes of people in the way in which they can be reached."

Accordingly, we are told, while the Bible contains history, this history is written chiefly, not for the scholarly historian, but in a popular style, in which "the imagination prevails over the logical arrangement of facts and words." Another large division of the Bible consists of prophecy, which may be compared with the oratory of other nations. A large portion of the Hebrew prophecy is "for most moderns of little practical importance," because it is so difficult for us to place ourselves in the situation of those

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to whom it was addressed. "It is the imagination of the prophets that makes them the religious instructors of mankind." The third great division of Hebrew literature is the poetical literature embracing a collection of lyrical poetry—the Psalter; a collection of sentences and poems of wisdom—Proverbs; a collection of dirges—Lamentations; and three pieces of composite and more artistic poetry—Job, the Song of Songs, and Ecclesiastes. In addition, the historical books contain enough beautiful poems to make another collection as large as the Psalter.

Professor Briggs then takes up for consideration the following six books in the order named: Job, the Song of Songs and Ecclesiastes, "three great pieces of composite poetry"; Jonah, Ruth, and Esther, "three prose works of the imagination, all written in the times of the restoration."

Of Job Professor Briggs says, it is a "gnomic, didactic drama," the poetic skill in which is approached in modern times by Goethe's "Faust" alone, which indeed was modeled after it. The story is now commonly recognized as in part or in whole a work of the imagination, "a drama of human experience under divine discipline, human persecution, and satanic temptation."

The Song of Songs has been the most abused of all the Old-Testament writings. The climax of the sins against it is the indelicate and immodest language into which it is rendered. There is not in the original an immodest or impure word of thought. It is a "drama of love, five acts of an operetta, each act having its refrain," "the drama for women as the Book of Job is for men," telling of the rustic Shulemite maiden, affianced to a shepherd, enticed to the court of Solomon, and resisting all the temptations brought to bear to win her love for the king.

Ecclesiastes is another drama, describing "a battle in the soul between skepticism and faith, agnosticism and the fear of God."

Referring to the great reluctance of many pious people to recognize the existence of imaginative works in the Old Testament, Professor Briggs endeavors to overcome this reluctance by the following considerations: Works of the imagination play a very important part in the Hebrew literature outside the Old Testament. The Haggadistic literature used for instructing the people in the schools and synagogs consisted largely of such literature—parables, stories, and legends of every kind. The Apocryphal writings, regarded as canonical in the Roman Catholic Church, have many such stories. The teachings of Jesus contain numerous parables which "have never been equaled for their simplicity, beauty, and power." "If Jesus used imaginary scenes and incidents in his parables, why may not inspired men in times of the Old-Testament revelation have used them also?"

Coming to the Book of Jonah, Professor Briggs gives reasons why it should be considered "as essentially an inspired work of the imagination." (1) The form of expression is not the steady flow of historical narration, but the story is given only so far as necessary to set forth the prophetic lessons. (2) The prophet Jonah is mentioned, in connection with a prediction of minor importance, in the history of the book of Kings; but no mention is made of his more important (if real) mission to Nineveh, nor is any mention made in the book of Jonah of the ministry referred to in Kings. (3) The two miracles recorded in Jonah are marvels rather than miracles, more like the wonders of the "Arabian Nights" than the miracles of Moses, Elijah, and Jesus. Of the story of the whale the Professor says:

"It is not so much the supernatural power in the miracle that troubles us as the character of the miracle. There is in it, whatever way we interpret it, the element of the extravagant and the grotesque. The divine simplicity, the holy sublimity, and the overpowering grace which characterize the miracles of Biblical history are conspicuously absent. We feel that there is no sufficient reason for such a miracle, and we instinctively shrink from it, not because of lack of faith in the supernatural divine power of working miracles, but because we have such a faith in God's grace and holiness and majesty that we find it difficult to believe that He could work such a grotesque and extravagant miracle as that described in the story of the great fish."

(4) The wholesale and sudden repentance of Nineveh is still more marvelous. Nothing like it meets us in the history of Israel or of the church. Jesus uses it for illustration because there was no historic repentance so well suited to his purpose. (5) The prayer in the story is not appropriate unless the story be considered ideal. This prayer is a mosaic from several more ancient psalms and prophecies, used by the author as appropriate to his story.

As for the reference made to the story by Jesus, Professor Briggs speaks as follows:

"It is objected that Jesus in his use of Jonah gives sanction to the historicity of the story. But this objection has little weight; for we have seen that his method of instruction was in the use of stories of his own composition. We ought not to be surprised, therefore, that he should use such stories from the Old Testament likewise.

"It is urged that Jesus makes such a realistic use of it that it compels us to think that he regarded it as real. But in fact he does not make a more realistic use of Jonah than he does of the story of Dives and Lazarus.

"Paul makes just as realistic a use of the story of Jannes and Jambres withstanding Moses; and compares them with the foes of Jesus in his times (2 Tim. iii. 8).

"And Jude makes just as realistic a use of Michael, the archangel, contending with the devil, and disputing about the body of Moses, and compares this dispute with the railers of his time (Jude 9).

"These stories by Paul and Jude are from the Jewish Haggada, and not from the Old Testament. No scholar regards them as historic events. If apostles could use the stories of the Jewish Haggada in this way, why should not Jesus use stories from the Old Testament? Jesus uses the story of Jonah just as the author of the book used it, to point important religious instruction to the men of his time. Indeed Jesus's use of it rather favors the interpretation of it as symbolic. For it is just this symbolism that the fish represents Sheol, the swallowing up death, the casting forth, resurrection, that we have seen in the story of Jonah interpreted by the prayer, which makes the story appropriate to symbolize the death and resurrection of Jesus."

Speaking of the lesson of the book—the triumph of divine grace, in the salvation of Nineveh, over the sentence of judgment uttered by Jonah—Professor Briggs has this to say:

"Jonah represents only too well the Jew of Nehemiah's time, the Jew of the New-Testament times, and also the Christian Church in its prevailing attitude to the heathen world. If the Roman Catholic Church had learned the lesson of Jonah, its theologians would not so generally have consigned the unbaptized heathen world to hell-fire. If the Reformers had understood Jonah there would have been more of them than Zwingli and Cœlius Secundus Curio, who thought that there were some redeemed heathen. If the Westminster divines had understood Jonah they never would have coined those remarkable statements of the tenth chapter of their Confession, in which the entire heathen world and their babes are left out of the election of grace. The present century, brought face to face with the heathen world, is beginning to learn the lesson of Jonah. Jonah is the book for our times. Tho written many centuries ago as a beautiful ideal of the imagination to teach the wonderful grace of God in the salvation of repenting heathen and their babes, it has been reserved for the present age to apprehend and apply its wonderful lessons. The repentance of Nineveh is a prophetic ideal."

STILL SCORING THE "HIGHER CRITICS."

REV. DR. LYMAN ABBOTT, Prof. Charles A. Briggs, and Dr. Emil Hirsch are three of the higher critics whom we find being handled with some severity in the religious press of the day for their treatment of the Old Testament. Dr. Abbott and Professor Briggs are well-known offenders in this respect against the convictions of the majority of evangelical Christians.

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That Dr. Hirsch is giving the same sort of trouble to his Jewish brethren is not so generally known.

In the latest issue of *The Jewish Quarterly Review* Mr. Claude Montefiore said that four questions must be settled before the Jews can move forward in the direction of reform. These four questions are as follows:

"1. What is to be (the new Judaism's) exact position toward the Pentateuch?

"2. What is to be its exact position toward the miracles of the Old Testament?

"3. What is to be its relation to the personality and the teachings of Jesus?

"4. What is to be its attitude toward the New Testament as a whole?"

In commenting recently on these questions, Dr. Hirsch asserted that American Reform Judaism has already settled the first two of these questions, having declared the Pentateuch "to be no longer the embodiment of our religious ideals; nor the authoritative compulsory regulator of our religious life and its binding practises." Of the Old Testament in general he says: "The miracles of the Old Testament we read in the light of folklore, myth, and legend. In one word, we accept the method and results of Biblical criticism without reserve."

The Hebrew Journal takes sharp issue with Dr. Hirsch on these points in the following style:

"Here at once we must register our protest, not in the name of 'the rabble that is chafing and foaming' at your curious position, if you please, but in the name of those hundred thousands of Jews whose numbers comprise men of vast learning and of deep thought, not inferior to any of the shining lights of your Reform Judaism. We are not prepared at all to say that the Pentateuch does not embody our religious ideal; on the contrary, we affirm (and no one knows better than Dr. Hirsch that ninety per cent. at least of the community of Israel in the United States are with us) that it embodies and reflects the 'ideal of Judaism' for our times and for all times to come as it did until now. This is not a mere assertion on the part of the writer, but a verity, of which Dr. Hirsch can easily convince himself if he tries to take up the subjects involved by the teachings of the Law of Moses against any of the learned conservative representatives of Judaism, not necessarily 'rabbis' or officiating ministers. Dr. Hirsch knows what success his brother-in-law had with his chafing against the so-called 'Abrahamic rite' some twenty years ago, and how well he succeeds with his Sunday-Sabbath ideas. Beside a couple of hundreds, a mere handful of Jews who are too selfish and too ignorant (never mind the high polish which bears the glitter of wealth) to observe the laws of Judaism, out of a community of about a half-million of souls they have no adherents to boast of."

The utterances for which Professor Briggs has incurred fresh censure pertain to the Roman Catholic Church, and were made in the form of a recent interview shortly before sailing for Europe. Among other things he said:

"I expect to spend the latter part of my vacation in Rome, in study of the Roman Catholic controversy, with special reference to the question of the reunion of the churches. I have great admiration for the present Pope, Leo XIII. I think he has the cause of church unity at heart, and that the words he has lately issued to the various Protestant and Oriental bodies, for unity, have been able and statesmanlike. I am of the opinion that he has gone as far as any one can reasonably expect him to go until some cordial response to his proposals has been given. . . . I have learned to look upon some of the Roman Catholic positions more favorably than I used to. . . . I think there are possibilities in the future of a reunion of the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches."

The Journal and Messenger (Baptist, Cincinnati) makes these utterances the subject of an editorial on "Briggs and Romanism," in which it asserts that his views of the Scriptures have all along indicated that he is at heart a Roman Catholic. It says:

"When the Briggs trouble began in the Union Theological Seminary we expressed the opinion that Briggs was essentially a Roman Catholic. The emphasis which he put upon the 'church' in comparison with the Scriptures indicated this. The Bible is the authority of the Protestant; the 'church' of the Romanist. . . . Not only does this interview show Briggs to be a Roman Catholic at heart, but the method of reasoning is that of a Romanist. The Pope is anxious for unity! Certainly, the Popes have always been anxious for unity. But this Pope, as all others, tells the world plainly that that unity must come from submission to the Pope. The Romish Church is ready to receive Briggs and all renegade Protestants who acknowledge the Pope and become Romanists. . . . Briggs wants one world-wide organization. The man at the head of it would be Pope, even if called by some other name. It has been a fascinating idea. It underlies that of church and state; and even in England some of the leaders of the state church feel that there ought to be room for no other denomination of Christians. It is against this idea that Baptists, of all others, protest. We believe in religious liberty. So long as there are differences of opinion they must be provided for. So long as we differ we must *agree* to differ, and give full liberty to differ. When we attempt to compel all men to think alike, we are apt to compel them to think wrong. Truth demands freedom. We notify the Pope that, while he is welcome to Briggs, he can not have the Baptists."

Missions Then and Now.—Food for reflection for those who are inclined to take a gloomy view of the present situation in the religious world is furnished in the following note from *The United Presbyterian:*

"Just one hundred years ago (1796) the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, then under the control of the Moderates, voted down an overture proposing to undertake foreign mission work. Mr. George Hamilton, minister of Gladsmuir, one of the leading speakers against the overture, said, 'To spread abroad the knowledge of the Gospel among the barbarous and heathen nations seems to be highly preposterous, in as far as it anticipates, nay, it even reverses the order of nature. Men must be refined and polished in their manners before they can be properly enlightened in religious truths. Philosophy and learning must, in the nature of things, take the precedence.' When we remember the condition and spirit of the church one century ago, and consider what the church is now, what she has done and is doing in the foreign field, and what, under the divine blessing, has been accomplished, we will not say, 'The former days were better than these.'"

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

ACCORDING to *The Universalist*, an enterprising Scotch minister in Melbourne has arrayed his male choristers in Highland dress, while the ladies are attired in the costume of the "Lady of the Lake." The hymns are sung to the strains of the bagpipe, and these innovations are so attractive that the church is crowded.

A CURIOUS probate suit has come up in the English law courts. An old gentleman, lately deceased, left half a million dollars to found and endow a church on the condition that every Sunday, before service, the whole of the Thirty-nine Articles shall be read by a clergyman outside the church door. Disinherited relatives are contesting the validity of the will.

"IN a very short time," says the New York *Christian Advocate*, "there will be brotherhoods named after all the apostles and perhaps a number of the prophets. They are now rivaling the secret societies in number and persistency. The Brotherhood of the Christian Church is as much as we find time to attend to properly, and can hardly claim to meet all of its responsibilities."

THE missal sent by Leo X. to Henry VIII., together with the parchment conferring upon him the title "Defender of the Faith," was bought a number of years ago for $50,000 by the German Government. The missal and parchment had been given by Charles II. to the ancestor of the famous Duke of Hamilton, and the library of this nobleman was sold by auction in London, where the Government of Germany bid up the book beyond the reach of all other would-be purchasers.

IN the seventy-three years of its existence the American Sunday-School Union has founded 100,000 schools, from which 6,000 churches have sprung. Last year it started 1,800 Sunday-schools, and during that time 108 churches developed from schools which previously had been opened. The greater part of this work is being done in Minnesota, the Dakotas, Montana, Idaho, Texas, Kansas, Indian Territory, Oklahoma, and the mountain regions of the Virginias, Tennessee, the Carolinas, and Georgia.

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FROM FOREIGN LANDS.

FRICTION BETWEEN FRANCE AND RUSSIA.

A MARKED coolness has arisen between France and Russia. The Russian press, indeed, was never very gushing on the subject of the Franco-Russian alliance, and its tone is no more indifferent than before; but the French papers complain of the manner in which France is treated by the northern colossus. One of the chief reasons for this dissatisfaction of the French journalist is the news that a little volume in which the poetical effusions of Coppée, Sully-Prud'homme, Heredia, etc., on the Czar's visit to Paris are gathered, has been rejected by the Russian censors as unworthy to enter the Holy Russian Empire. The *Petite République* is hopping mad. It says:

"With incredible want of tact and the most barefaced contempt, the Russian Government has allowed its myrmidons to turn back a collection of poems whose every verse breathes praise for the Czar's magnanimous soul. . . France has had her ears boxed publicly. The humblest telegraph operator in Australia or at Cape of Good Hope knows now that, if the President of the French Republic writes to the Czar, the Cossack of the imperial mail will crush the missive and send it back, marked: 'Letters from footmen not received!' . . . The same Czar who fills his pockets with the gold that bears the stamp of our republic refuses to admit our books. Our gold is welcome, our writers are not."

The censors have not explained their conduct. The French papers can not discover any reason for the rejection of the booklet except a passage in Mounet-Sully's poem:

L'honneur d'avoir conquis
L'amour d'un peuple libre.

(The honor of having conquered the love of a people *free.*)

But there are other reasons for French dissatisfaction. France is not pleased with Russia's policy. It is thought in Paris that Russia does not sufficiently consider French interests. Thus the *Siècle*, Paris, says:

"We want to know, once for all, how the alliance will assist us to recover Alsace-Lorraine. If it has been concluded with a view to restoring to us our lost provinces either peaceably or by war, then we are warm partizans of the alliance. But if its aim is merely the preservation of peace, what good does it do us? Unfortunately the latter hypothesis seems to come nearest the truth."

The *Gaulois* publishes extracts from the letter of a Russian diplomat, in which Russia's views are said to be very clearly set forth. We condense its contents as follows:

Russia really can not see why you complain. Emperor Alexander III. has taken your republic by the hand and treated her like a lady (*il la traite comme une grande dame*), raising her to an equality among sovereigns by the introduction he has given her. But the Emperor of Russia can not promise to restore Alsace-Lorraine to you any more than the Emperor of Germany can promise to give the French provinces of Nice and Savoy to Italy. Russia has done what she could to please you with regard to the Egyptian question. Russia has joined her protest with yours, altho we thought this protest useless. The one place where we can work in perfect accord is the Near East. France, like Russia, has much interest at stake in Turkey. But France must not forget that Russia's interests are predominant in this case. . . . Russia can have Germany as a friend any day. France was in verity the Cinderella of Europe until Russia uplifted her, and the French people ought to know that it is not very polite to remind your friends of money lent to them. . . . The last state of France will then be worse than the first.

The *Gaulois* remarks to this:

"The greatest fault committed by France is that she can not make up her mind what to do. During the last twenty years French politicians have been unable to decide whether it is best to work for the restitution of Alsace-Lorraine or to demand the evacuation of Egypt. It is very doubtful that we can get both. We must, therefore, choose between an alliance with the Dreibund or with England."

Clemenceau complains in *Justice* that the Czar has given France absolutely nothing for her millions. Lanessau, in the *Rappel*, fears the money is thrown away and advocates an *entente* with England. The *Novoye Vremya*, St. Petersburg, replies:

"In our times mere pretense and show go for nothing. Real power and influence are only in the hands of nations which are strong and can depend upon strong allies. It was Germany that discovered this secret, and we are all forced to follow in the footsteps of Germany. It is, therefore, very foolish to stand upon questions of prestige and outward appearance. The interests of France are not in Constantinople, they are on the Suez Canal How can France expect to play a predominant part in Constantinople! The Bosporus is the natural portion of Russia, when Turkey breaks up. No other country but Russia would know what to do with Constantinople.

"It is quite true that France plays second fiddle in the Turkish question. But if that was not the case, France and Russia could not be friends. If France is so anxious to be mentioned as cock-of-the-walk on some important question that is treated in the newspaper telegrams, she must turn her attention to Egypt."

The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, fears the Franco-Russian alliance will not last long. "No love will last if unrequited," says our contemporary from the land of bridges and dikes, "but the Russians do not see this. Their selfishness has a sobering effect on France." The *Nord*, Brussels, a paper "inspired" from Russia, nevertheless declares that Russia will do something in the Egyptian question as soon as the Cretan trouble is ended.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE CRETAN QUESTION.

ALTHO the great powers have not consented to the annexation of Crete by Greece, they have made a concession to public opinion. Turkish soldiers have not been permitted to land in Crete. Greek troops, tho officially forbidden to land on the island, have flowed into it with great force, and the Mohammedans are swamped. Telegrams reporting the massacre of Mohammedan women and children are the order of the day, but the figures given—varying between 6,000 and 300—are probably as unreliable as those published regarding the Armenian massacres. The Vienna *Reichswehr* regards these massacres as proofs that the Cretans do not wish to be disturbed in their ancient pastime of murder, "until the last Cretan has killed the last but one." As a consequence the Cretans have lost much of the sympathy aroused in their favor. *Life*, London, says:

"The sympathy which had been roused by the first tales, the appeal which had been made to Christendom to renew its old and historic feud against the Paynim, had taken so firm a hold that the Turks have, it must be admitted, received but scant justice from their detractors. How fatal has been the effect of this sympathy extended to the oppressed Christians of the Turkish Empire is curiously shown in the course which is now taken in Crete, where it is an open secret that the Christians have been the aggressors. . . . Depend upon it, we have not yet heard both sides of the question, in spite of Sir Ashmead Bartlett's presence in the House of Commons. . . . We more than suspect that impartial evidence would reveal the startling fact, one which excuses much, that the Christians have brought upon themselves a goodly share of the ill-treatment of which they complain, and to prevent which they are now endeavoring to set all Europe once again in a blaze."

Similar expressions are no rarity in England, especially in the financial press, whose readers feel the effects of the late disturbances. The average newspaper, however, declares that England can not assist the other powers in their policy of pacification. Both Conservatives and Liberals are disgusted that the British squadron assisted in the bombardment of the rebel camp near

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Canea. *The Daily Chronicle* declared, only a few days before, that "no English Cabinet could escape condemnation whose order caused the English squadron to fire a shot in defense of the Turk." *The Spectator* announces that "the British people are no party to the crime of backing the European concert." Yet the Salisbury Cabinet has at last consented to join the powers. England, Russia, France, Italy, Austria, and Germany have determined that Crete shall have autonomy, full and complete, the only vestige of Turkish authority that remains being an annual tribute to the Sultan. According to the Continental papers the British Government was forced to consent to at least nominal suzerainty of the Sultan over Crete by the threat of the other powers that England would be ignored altogether if she continued to oppose them. There is a widespread conviction that England encouraged both the Cretans and the Greeks. The *National Zeitung*, Berlin, in a lengthy article, declares that the English press exhibits very little prudence in its continued attacks on the German Emperor, who is backed by his people. It continues:

"The near future must show whether the powers can be crossed by the selfish policy of England. The veil will be removed, the origin of these odd proceedings on the part of little Greece will be discovered. Germany has been convinced from the start that the whole affair means much more than a war of Greece against Turkey. It means an attempt on the part of England to embroil Europe in a war for her own selfish purposes."

No proof has been offered in support of these conjectures, but they are very generally accepted, even in France, where the *Petit Journal*, the most widely circulated paper, warns the partizans of Greece as follows:

"It was England who caused all the trouble in Asia Minor by encouraging the Armenians to rebel. It is England who now sends Greece to Crete. France has reason to act with the utmost caution. We have enough to do and can not afford to become embroiled in new difficulties. We must stand by our ally to the last, if we would be successful against England."

The *Hamburger Nachrichten*, Bismarck's paper, explains that England hopes for the destruction of all European industry and shipping by a general war; the paper thinks, however, that England would be satisfied if Crete became a Greek province or totally independent. In either case England would be rewarded with the Cretan ports she covets so much. Our Hamburg contemporary further asserts that, if peace is maintained, a most signal defeat is inflicted upon British diplomacy. The organ of the French Royalists, the *Moniteur*, expresses itself in a similar manner. Many of the Boulevard papers, however, inspired by their present dislike against Russia's diplomacy, declare that the Greek cross must be upheld against the Turkish crescent. The *Soleil* and the *Petite République*, both opposition papers, threaten the administration with dismissal.

WHO'LL GET THE "WISH?" THE EASTERN QUESTION WILL EVENTUALLY COME TO THIS.—*The Journal, Chicago.*

King George of Greece is not blamed for his action by anybody. *The Times* explains his difficulties to the following effect:

King George has always been a "prince of peace" *par excellence*. During the thirty years of his reign he has always done his best to restrain his subjects, who are ever ready for attempts to realize their dreams of a "Greater Greece." Yet he has always advanced the interests of Greece when diplomacy was of avail. In the present case, however, he was forced to accede to the popular demand for vigorous action, or vacate his throne. He would have earned little respect by the latter course.

The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, thinks no one could ask King George to commit such useless political suicide, and says:

"When a nation shows as great sympathy for its brothers as the Greeks have shown in the case of Crete, ministers and princes must reckon with it. King George, at best a foreigner, and with the fate of his predecessor Otto of Bavaria in his mind, would not be likely to resist his people. 'You tell me to be careful,' he said to a friend, 'but this is no time for hesitation. Do you know that my crown is in danger?'"—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE HEALTH OF THE CZAR.

REPORTS that the Czar's health is failing appear periodically in the newspapers, tho the Russian Government denies their truth, and the eminent physicians said to have been summoned to attend the ruler of all the Russias remain at home. The persistence of these reports has nevertheless caused some depression in Central Europe. Hans Delbrück, the well-known German authority on international politics, advises the German Government "to keep its powder dry, in case a regency in Russia should assist Panslavists there in attacking the hated Prussians." The *Correspondent*, Hamburg, has received an authoritative statement from St. Petersburg, declaring that the Czar is certainly in no worse state of health than formerly. We quote the following:

"Emperor Nicholas II. is not exceptionally strong, but neither is he specially weak. He is, perhaps, a little nervous, but the experience of the past year was enough to try the nerves of any man. Few people know how deeply the catastrophe on the Chodinsky Field has affected him, which he could not but regard as a bad omen. Then came the death of his trusty adviser, Lobanow, with whom he had been in daily intercourse. The exertions of such a tour as the Czar's should not be underrated either. To all this must be added that the Empress was in a condition which requires much attention. The Czar is a husband like any other man, and not insensible to the sufferings of his wife. The necessary etiquette prevented the Imperial couple very often from taking their much-needed rest. At present, however, both are recuperating, and there is no reason to believe that their health is exceptionally bad."

The *Hamburger Nachrichten* says:

"The tale that the Czar is in exceptionally bad health has been continually repeated, and its sources are always English. Thus also came the latest version, sent out by the Manchester *Guardian*, which tells of epileptic attacks due to the wound received at the hands of a Japanese. We all know that our British cousins are very anxious about the Czar's health. They would not be pleased if everything went topsy-turvy in Russia in consequence of his death—not they! But their fears will hardly be realized. People grow old in spite of wounds, and the Czar may yet live to ripe old age."

In France these repeated stories have caused some consternation. Frenchmen have learned to identify Russia with the Czar to such an extent that they can not believe that Russia's policy would be stable even at his death. The Monarchist papers espe-

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cially express much anxiety, for their hopes have been raised by the alliance with the Russian Empire.

Cassagnac, the rabid Imperialist, of whom the Republicans say that "his mind has become unbalanced at the sight of an Emperor," prints a long prayer in the *Autorité*, of which the following closing sentences may serve as a sample:

"We pray thee, O Lord of the Franks and of the Royal Chlodwig; the God to whom we offered so recently our thanks in the Cathedral of Reims; the God of the Sacred Heart, to whom France, Christian France, has turned again with promises of faith on the Montmartre; we beseech Thee, O Lord, who once lovedst France and delivered her through our heroic Jeanne d'Arc, that it may please thee to bless us again by restoring to health the Czar, the joy of two great nations!"

This was, however, before the Russian censors rejected the latest effusions of French poetry.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE PLAGUE.

THE administration of the small colony of Goa has taken energetic measures to suppress the plague within its limited boundaries. The bodies of the plague victims are burned, without consideration of race or creed. Shipping has been prohibited, and a cordon has been drawn around the infested district. The English officials at Bombay regard this activity with a feeling akin to envy, for it is altogether impossible for them to imitate it. The city is affected largely by the famine; it is therefore impossible to hamper business officially, for the famine would probably increase while the plague would hardly abate if it were made impossible for the poor to earn a living. According to *The Times of India*, the administration does its best to educate the adherents of the several religious communities in Bombay to the necessity of sanitary precautions, even if such precautions interfere with religion. The most scathing criticism on the alleged former lethargy of the Indian officials now comes from other British possessions. Altho the disease has undoubtedly been imported from China, where sporadic cases occur continually, the Hongkong people, only too well acquainted with its terrors, are clamoring for protection. *The Telegraph*, Hongkong, says:

"We are sorry for Bombay. While we wish the municipality a happy issue out of its serious difficulties, we are bound to confess that it seems like hoping against hope, for present prospects can not be considered as favoring any hope of improvement in the immediate future. They are reaping that which they have sown, and, in their blind conceit and foolish reluctance to break asunder the blighting bonds of red-tapeism, have failed to take every possible advantage of the terrible experiences of Hongkong in 1894. It is to be feared that unless the Government of India mends its ways speedily, what with pestilence and famine rampant throughout the land, and a discontented people crying aloud for reforms that are never conceded, however greatly needed, dark days are in store for our Indian Empire. It must be confessed, we fear, that hitherto there has been a superabundance of class legislation in India, and that the protection of the masses has not been given as much thought as past experience indicates as being as desirable as it is necessary in respect of all thickly populated states. Would that it were possible to think otherwise; facts, however, forbid it. Let us hope that the Government of India will not be slow to take warning from the ripples on the surface which now show how the depths are surging below."

The Spectator, London, fears that the entire British Empire will suffer terrible loss on account of the plague. The administration in India, and the British authorities at home are, of course, not responsible, but the foreigner, always ready to hurt Great Britain, has taken it into his head that England ought to close the ports of India. The paper continues:

"The cities of Southern Europe are wild with alarm, and if the disease makes its appearance in Calcutta, which is always exposed to infection from Hongkong, the export trade of India will be everywhere boycotted, and the value of all Indian textiles will sink, as we note the price of Indian carpets has already sunk. The governments are only too glad of an excuse for hurting Great Britain, but they are hardly to blame, for the current of popular feeling is irresistible. The ordinary Frenchman or Italian, having little faith in a future state, simply will not tolerate a chance of sudden death from an epidemic. The financial consequences to India will be terrible, definitely worse than those of a first-class war."

The Westminster Gazette does not believe that it is necessary to stop the export of cotton from India. It does not blame the nations of Europe for their prudence, but it is certain that cotton can never carry infection.

Meanwhile nearly all the Continental countries are enforcing stringent quarantine regulations against goods and passengers from India, which led to an amusing incident in Italy, where an Englishman was shut up in a railroad carriage and shunted on to a side track used to isolate infected cattle. It turned out, however, that the gentleman in question was perfectly healthy, and he was released with many apologies, which did not prevent him from expressing his disgust in very forcible English. The Stockholm *Allehanda* demonstrates that climate is really no protection against the plague, which has been imported in Sweden on several occasions, killing 60,000 people between the months of September and January at one time. Speaking of the possibilities of the plague in Calcutta, *The Times*, London, expresses itself to the following effect:

Three hundred and fifty thousand people have fled from Bombay, spreading the plague all over India. Calcutta is likely to suffer worse than Bombay, for it is much more densely populated. London has 35,905 inhabitants per square mile. None of the eighteen districts of Calcutta have less than 50,000, some have over 100,000, one has even 144,640. The alluvial soil is very thin, in fact Calcutta is built upon a sponge of refuse, gathered by many generations. Some of the most densely inhabited parts are below the level of the river. The natives are very filthy. Formerly extensive fires cleared the air, but the natives now build their huts of clay instead of straw and matting. The only help is to widen the streets and cover the drains, but this would cost enormous sums. Yet the city can do it, if it has a mind to do so, for the Government is willing to assist with funds.

ARE AMERICANS TERRORIZED AND DON'T KNOW IT?

RECTOR AHLWARDT, the anti-Semite member of the German Reichstag, who recently visited America, has given a lecture in Berlin on the condition of the United States, picturing our great republic in an entirely novel light. According to Rector Ahlwardt we need nothing more urgently than deliverance from the terrorism exercised over us by our Jewish fellow citizens. Germany and Austria, he thinks, are like heaven compared with the United States, where the sons of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob exercise full sway. We quote the most astonishing parts of Herr Ahlwardt's lecture:

"That Germany is suffering from the increase of the Jewish element is a fact too well known to need further proofs. Many of you will, however, hear with astonishment that America, at least certain parts of America, are no better off in this respect. The Americans certainly are in danger of an exclusively plutocratic rule, headed by Jewish financiers. Hence the Jews received me with anything but equanimity. In New York I was clubbed and rotten eggs were thrown at me. In Hoboken a mob of 300 to 400 Jews intended to lynch me, and they might have succeeded if I had not been armed. The sight of my revolver calmed them. The reason for this was apparent enough. New York is absolutely under the thumb of the Jews. The majority of the stores on Broadway seem to be in the hands of Jews. Third Avenue is alive with them, so is Fourth Avenue. The American people are enslaved to such an extent by the Jews that

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our own condition here in Germany seems really preferable in comparison. America will be ruined by the mob."

Altho the New York paper whose correspondent publishes the report is anything but reliable, it should be mentioned that Ahlwardt is said to be in the pay of American pork-packers now. It is further said that he has unduly impressed the beef and pork barons of Chicago with his influence in the German Parliament, and that he will do his best to remove existing restrictions on the importation of American produce.

ENGLAND, RUSSIA, AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

THERE seems to be an earnest desire in Chinese government circles to mold the country after the pattern of Western civilization. An official named Sheng, who has been appointed railroad commissioner and who seems to exercise much influence just now, has obtained the Emperor's consent to several important reforms, which we find enumerated in the *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, as follows:

"The most important reform contemplated is the complete reconstruction of the army. The present system of provincial armies under the command of provincial governors is to be abolished. Instead, an army of 300,000 troops, trained by European officers, will be created. The men must serve three years with the colors, three years in the first reserve, and three years in the second reserve. In this way China will have 1,200,000 men ready at the end of nine years. The expenses for this army will be no greater than for the present provincial troops.

"Other reforms relate to the mines and to a new system of public schools. But such reforms are impossible without an adequate financial system and a steady supply of funds. Hence China will in future coin money, like other countries, the coins to be taken in payment by all public treasuries. To regulate the finances of the empire, the *likin* or provincial tariffs are to be abolished. The Imperial Custom-House, however, will collect *ad valorem* duty to the amount of ten per cent. on all imports."

But before the Chinese Government can collect this money, the consent of the treaty powers must be obtained, and this seems somewhat difficult. Especially England, at one time the predominant power in the Far East, will do her best to retard the increase of the tariff until she has obtained formidable concessions. English politicians are much disconcerted over the secret treaty between China and Russia, whose actual text is still a secret. Enough of it has nevertheless been published to show that Russia derives from it the right to build a railroad through Manchuria, to establish factories in Northern China, and to open the northern ports to her trade. A writer in *The Contemporary Review*, London, gives a shrewd guess at the manner in which the ratification of this treaty was obtained, indicating also how England could restore her influence in the Far East. We condense this article as follows:

Li Hung Chang, tho disgraced in the eyes of the Emperor, had retained much influence over the destinies of China, for he was the friend of the Empress Dowager. Cassini, the Russian Minister to China, made use of this circumstance. In the face of much opposition from the Emperor he procured the appointment of Li Hung Chang as special envoy to the Czar's coronation. Once in Moscow, Li Hung Chang signed the treaty. His principal reason was hatred of England, whose selfish policy during the Chino-Japanese war he regards as the cause of China's defeat. Li Hung Chang denies having signed this treaty; but there is no reason to believe him, for his secretary, Loh Fêng Luh, in an interview with the editor of *Galignani's Messenger*, remarked that "England's prestige in the East was gone altogether, and that soon she would lose India," and after furnishing the details as to how the latter event is to be brought about, he concluded with a general statement that one day Russia and China would rule the Asiatic world. Neither the Tsung-li-Yamên nor the Emperor wished to ratify the treaty; but Earl Cassini worked upon the fears of the Emperor through the Empress Dowager.

Through Li Hung Chang and a member of the Tsung-li-Yamên, he succeeded in impressing the Empress Dowager with the conviction, not merely that England was philo-Japanese, but that a secret treaty had been actually signed between England and Japan, and that China was in imminent danger of attack by those allied powers. The peril was represented to be direct and immediate, not remote and contingent. This statement could easily be made to wear a plausible appearance. It is the accepted and oft-repeated opinion of Li Hung Chang and his *entourage* that England has become anti-Chinese. The act of ratification was wrested from the young Emperor last September, but not until he had been threatened with the gravest consequences of his refusal by the Empress Dowager. On the one side the young ruler was terrified into the belief that the only means of saving his capital from an imminent Anglo-Japanese attack was by signing the treaty insuring for him the protection of Russia, and also placing Russia, as the reader can discern by a perusal of its clauses, in a position to defend the two principal sea approaches to Peking, Port Arthur and Wei Hai Wei. On the other side the young Emperor was menaced with the most serious personal consequences if he showed himself obstinate and opposed the views of those who had placed him on the throne.

Turning to the question, What can England do to counteract the influences of this treaty? the same writer expresses himself to the following effect:

It is clear, at the outset, that we can not tear it up. The Emperor of China is free to sign what he pleases, or what he is cajoled or threatened into signing. Nor can we adopt the heroic measure of presenting an ultimatum to Russia ordering her to cancel this treaty. But such admissions are far from implying that we are helpless. We can refuse to accede to the proposed increase in the tariff unless China extends our treaty rights, such as we have at present on the coast, in Manchuria, and even throughout the whole of China. Germany and France, having much to gain and nothing to lose in this game, should be willing to join us, and Russia could not well object to mere trading advantages. China must be taught that she can only benefit by opening her gates wide to English enterprise. England, on the other hand, must use to the fullest extent the advantages which treaty rights confer upon her. China must, at least, give England the same rights which Russia has obtained. England should be able to obtain this in a peaceful manner, as the price for her consent to tariff revision. When the time for action comes she can hold her own, but she ought not to look on unconcernedly at the progress of the game. But those who believe that she is easily deceived, that she will han dover her rights to persons or governments whose attitude is hostile, and who are frightened into signing away rights that no independent state can safely cede, will one day be undeceived. Russia knows better than this, but the shortsightedness of the Chinese character provides her with one of the instruments for attaining her own ends.

FOREIGN NOTES.

"HUNDREDS" of Americans are said to be languishing in Cuban prisons. The lists furnished to Congress tell of only 74 since the outbreak of the rebellion, all of whom appear, from their names, to be Cubans who took out American naturalization papers to obtain the protection of the American Government.

THE London *Daily Mail*, a new publication typically faithful to "new journalism," relates that the Transvaal and Free State Boers are in such abject fear of an invasion that they continually fire off their rifles on the frontier to frighten away the invaders. The *Handelsblad* thinks it is news that the Boers can afford to waste their ammunition on an imaginary enemy.

A STAGE manager as guardian of public morals is something new. The manager of the Geneva City Theater has the honor of being the first. His prima-donna received the attentions of Baron C., a noted young sportsman and roué, in a box of the theater. The manager not only forbade the actress to do so, but refused admittance to the dude, tho he purchased tickets. The police support the manager, and public opinion is also with him.

MIGUEL, the German Minister of Finance, has been knighted on his fifty-eighth birthday. Like other prominent Germans, he was a violent Radical in his youth. Experience has converted him into a Conservative, he says. His elevation to a baronetcy proves that the Emperor appreciates his services, and that the attacks of the Radicals upon his management of Germany's finances has fallen flat.

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BUSINESS SITUATION.

Trade reports give prominence to signs of encouragement. *Dun's Review*, March 6, says: "The slow and gradual improvement observed for some time has continued during the past week, and without material check. Some cloak-makers here and the ore-handlers at one yard in Cleveland have struck, and the Lake iron mines are quite generally reducing wages, no agreement for the coming year as to prices of ore having been reached, but the aggregate force employed in all industries has still somewhat increased. There is a better demand for most products on the whole, with continuance of speculative buying in some, notably in wool, because of expected duties. Meanwhile money markets continue as easy and undisturbed as if there had never been anxiety about the gold reserve, and fairly large sales of stocks on London account during the week, possibly because of international anxieties, have made no perceptible difference in American markets."

Bradstreet's, of the same date, says: "The new Administration, the certainty of an extra session of Congress within a fortnight, and the promise of a new tariff at an early day which shall provide adequate revenue and protection, have done much to stimulate a better feeling in trade circles and increase confidence in the near approach of an improvement in business."

General Prices.—"Reports of probable needs abroad have helped speculation in wheat somewhat, but it has risen about 3 cents, tho the price is still lower than two weeks ago. Corn is a cent stronger, about the price of two weeks ago. Western receipts of wheat are still small, 1,559,821 bushels against 2,301,633 last year, and the Atlantic exports, flour included, were for the week 1,232,412 bushels against 1,541,135 last year; but the corn exports continue so heavy as to compensate largely, if not wholly, for any decrease in wheat, amounting for the week to 2,779,974 bushels, Gulf ports not included, against 1,014,390 last year. Reckoning half a bushel corn for one bushel wheat, the grain supply of other countries continues much larger than a year ago. Cotton has declined an eighth and with good reason, for altho receipts from plantations fall off, the decrease is not greater than the decrease in consumption owing to stoppage of mills. As there is comparative little cotton available in the country, the market is a very convenient one for speculators to manipulate. While many of the mills have stopped production of cotton goods for a time, the general outlook is on the whole unchanged, and the demand for goods does not improve, while print cloths are a shade lower. . . . The boot and shoe industry can reckon a good many more shops at work, and shipments have been as large for the past four weeks as in any previous year, 385,571 cases against 316,993 last year and 386,305 in the same weeks of 1895, but the preponderance of cheap women's goods must reduce the value of products marketed to a considerable extent. The market for materials has not changed to any important extent. While the demand for Bessemer pig has sustained the recent advance to $10.75 per ton at Pittsburg, and Gray Forge is still quoted at $9.40 there, and there is also less cutting of prices to get more business in finished products, the general range of prices still continues very low."—*Dun's Review, March 6.*

Bank Clearings.—"Bank clearings this week, amounting to $1,012,000,000, show an increase of 30 per cent. over the total last week, which included one holiday. Compared with a year ago, this week's aggregate is 5 per cent. smaller, but it is 1 per cent. larger than in the like week of 1895, and 8 per cent. larger than in the first week of March, 1894. The falling-off as compared with the corresponding week of 1893, a period of large volume of business, is 26 per cent., and as compared with the like portion of 1892 it is 16 per cent."—*Bradstreet's, March 6.*

Raid on Stock Market.—"The stock market was raided by the bears on the anti-trust feature of the President's inaugural address. London has been weak, and sold stocks for the past two days on the unfavorable Eastern political outlook. The coal stocks have been weak on publications unfavorable to the Jersey Central Company. In spite of its irregularity the market has a very strong tone, the sustaining feature being the refunding plan announced by the Lake Shore Company in conjunction with a bankers' syndicate. The strength of the Vanderbilt stocks, led by Lake Shore, Omaha, and New York Central, is the feature. Foreign exchange is dull and strong at 4.87 @ 4.87¼. The ease of money encourages speculative buying of long bills."—*Bradstreet's, March 6.*

Failures.—*Bradstreet's* reports 262 business failures in the United States for the week against 258 last week, 270 a year ago, 252 in 1895. *Dun's Review* reports 246 against 285 last year, and gives a table of February failures by branches of industry which "show but slight increase over those of 1896 or 1895, and but little decrease compared with 1894. There is rather more increase in iron and machinery failures than in other branches. The feature of special interest is the conservatism in trading, indicated by the decrease in liabilities of trading failures in nearly every branch of business, contrasted with the slight increase in liabilities of manufacturing failures."

Canadian Situation.—"Toronto reports a slight improvement in wholesale trade and that prices are firm. The feature of the business week at Montreal has been millinery openings and requests for renewals on a large proportion of commercial accounts due March 1. At Halifax bills maturing on the 1st instant were fairly well met. Demand for pickled fish at St. John, N. B., constitutes the feature of the business week, and recent falls of snow have stimulated activity among the lumbermen. Bank clearings at Winnipeg, Hamilton, Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax aggregate $16,814,000 this week, compared with $17,259,000 last week, and with $17,121,000 in the like week a year ago. There are 51 business failures reported from the Canadian Dominion this week, against 50 last week, 66 in the week a year ago, and 53 two years ago." [*Dun's Review:* 59 against 68 last year.]—*Bradstreet's, March 6.*

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CHESS.

[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."]

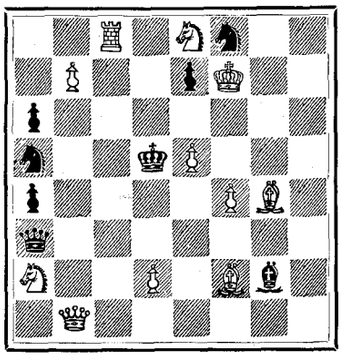
Problem 191.

BY F. W. ANDREW.

First Prize *Birmingham News* (England) Problem Competition.

Black—Eight Pieces.

K on Q 4; Q on Q R 6; B on K Kt 7; Kts on K B sq, Q R 4; Ps on K 2, Q R 3 and 5.



White—Eleven Pieces.

K on K B 7; Q on Q Kt sq; Bs on K B 2, K Kt 4; Kts on K 8, Q R 2; R on Q B 8; Ps on K 5, K B 4, Q 2, Q Kt 7.

White mates in two moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 188.

1. B—B 8 / K x R	2. B—B 5, mate
1. ..... / B x R	2. B—R 6, mate
1. ..... / B any other	2. Q—B 3, mate
1. ..... / Kt any	2. Q x Kt or—Q 4, mate

Correct solution received from M. W. H., F. H. Johnston, H. Ketcham, W. G. Donnan, C. F. Putney, the Rev. H. W. Temple, R. D. Tompkins, Hillside, Mo.; John Henderson, St. Louis; W. S. Weeks, Litchfield, Minn.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; F. B. Osgood, North Conway, N. H.; E. M. Taylor, Chester, Pa.; Mrs. M. B. Cook, Friendship, Me.; Dr. W. S. Frick, Philadelphia; H. J. Hutson, Fruitland, N. Y.; the Rev. W. B. Pimm, Babylon, L. I.; the Rev. J. A. Younkins, Natrona, Pa.; Chas W. Cooper, Allegheny, Pa.; Mr. and Mr. J. V. Streed, Cambridge, Ill.; W. H. Cobb, Newton Center, Mass.; Dr. J. A. Maryson, New York city; J. O. Villars, Wilmington, O; G. A. Humpert, St. Louis; E. B. J., Washington.

Chas. W. Cooper, W. H. Cobb, Mr. and Mrs. Streed, E. B. J., Drs. J. B. Trowbridge, Hayward, Wis., and J. N. Chandler, Des Moines, discovered the correct solution of 187.

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Patent Elastic Felt consists of airy, interlacing, fibrous sheets, of snowy whiteness and great elasticity; closed in the tick by hand, and *never* mats, loses shape or gets lumpy. Is perfectly dry, non-absorbent, and is guaranteed absolutely vermin-proof. Tick may be removed for washing without trouble. Softer and purer than hair *can be;* no repicking or restuffing necessary.

February 7, 1894.

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References: Bradstreet's or Dun's Commercial Agencies.

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We will give the solution of 186 next week. Only two of our solvers have thus far mastered it. H. Ketcham should be credited with getting 184. Send in your way of doing 181 as corrected.

The Lasker-Steinitz Match.

ELEVENTH GAME.

(*Comments by Reichelm in The Times, Philadelphia.*)

STEINITZ. *White.*	LASKER. *Black.*
1 P—Q 4	P—Q 4
2 P—Q B 4	P—K 3
3 Q Kt—B 3	K Kt—B 3

The study of the Queen's Pawn Opening is yet in a state of comparative infancy, and it has become a question whether White's next regulation (B—Kt 5) is the best on the board. As throwing some light on the subject we may say that Herr Lasker, who is right cute in the opening, prefers to develop his Queen's Bishop by way of Knight's second.

4 B—Kt 5	B—K 2
5 P—K 3	Castles
6 Q—Kt 3	P x P
7 B x P	P—B 4
8 P x P	Kt—Q 2
9 P—B 6	P x P
10 Kt—B 3	Kt—Q 4
11 B x B	Q x B
12 Castles K R	R—Kt sq

Here the opening is left and each player from this point is left to his own wit.

13 Q—B 2	Q—Kt 5
14 Kt—Q sq	B—Kt 2
15 Kt—K sq	K R—Q sq
16 Kt—Q 3	Q—Q 3
17 P—K B 3	
18 B x Kt	17 Q Kt—Kt 3

White has not an easy game to play, but he had better sought a simplification by medium of Knight to Bishop's third.

Pawn to King's fourth won't do on account of Kt—Kt 5, with a strong development.

	18 B P x B
19 P—Q Kt 3	P—K 4
20 Q Kt—B 2	Q R—B sq
21 Q—Kt 2	P—B 3

The difference between the two players is that Lasker makes no unusual moves of the Chinese pagoda order.

22 K R—Q B sq	Kt—Q 2
23 R x R	R x R
24 R—B sq	Q—Kt 3
25 R x R ch	B x R
26 Q—Q 2	B—Kt 2
27 K—B sq	Kt—B sq
28 Q—Kt 4	Q x Q
29 Kt x Q	K—B 2
30 Q Kt—Q 3	Kt—K 3
31 K—K 2	K—K 2
32 K—Q 2	K—Q 3
33 K—B 3	P—Kt 4
34 Kt—Q B 2	B—R 3
35 P—K Kt 4	B—Kt 4
36 Kt—R 3	B—K sq

Black's troops are better ordered for the final operations, and he throws nearly all his forces to the advancement of his King's wing which decides the battle.

37 Kt—B 2	B—R 4
38 P—Q R 4	

He should be more defensive. Say, Kt—K B 2, for instance.

	38 P—B 4
39 P—Kt 5	P—B 5
40 P—K 4	P x P
41 P x P	B—Kt 3

Now on White's Kt—B 2 Black would continue with Kt—B 4.

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42	Kt—R 3	B x P
43	Kt—B 4 ch	K—K 2
44	P—Kt 3	B x Kt

The shortest cut in Lasker's famous style.

45	K x B	Kt—B 4 ch
46	K—K 2	P x P
47	P x P	Kt x P
48	Kt x P	Kt—B 6 ch
49	K—B 3	Kt x P
50	K—Kt 4	K—K 3
51	Kt—B 6	K—B 3
52	K—R 5	P—Q R 3
53	P—Kt 4	Kt—Q 3
54	Kt—Kt 8	P—R 4
55	Kt—Q 7 ch	K—K 2
56	Kt—B 5	Kt—B 2

The clincher, winning easily for Black, who proceeds at his leisure to win the King's Knight's Pawn and the game.

Lasker and Steinitz.

Lasker and Steinitz have, in their two matches and in the tourneys at Hastings, St. Petersburg, and Nuremberg, played 44 games. The following table shows the score:

	Lasker.	Steinitz.	D.
First match	10	5	4
Hastings	1	0	0
St. Petersburg	3	1	2
Nuremberg	1	0	0
Second match	10	2	5
Total	25	8	11

In their two matches, they played 36 games, of which Lasker won 20; Steinitz, 7; Drawn, 9.

Chess-Nuts.

Lasker and Tschigorin will play a match for 4,000 rubles a side and the Championship of the World, in St. Petersburg.

The ways of problem-composers, problem-solvers, and problems themselves are curiously unaccountable. "An incident worth recording," says the London *Field*, "happened with problem No. 1,260. It was transcribed upon a two-move blank form and printed as a two-mover instead of a three-mover. But the curious point is that as a three-mover it would have been 'cooked,' while as a two-mover it is sound, although not perfect."

Current Events.

Monday, March 1.

The Senate passes the District of Columbia appropriation bill and considers the naval bill; Mr. Chandler's amendment to fix the price of armor plate at $300 a ton precipitates a bitter discussion. . . . The House sends the sundry civil bill to conference. . . . The President approves an amendment to postal laws providing limited indemnity for loss of registered mail matter. . . . The United States Supreme Court reverses judgment in the case of the filibuster *Three Friends* which is remanded to custody. . . . Increase in public debt for February, $4,592,137; cash in Treasury, $864,338,167. . . . A strike is on against employment of non-union labor at the Globe Shipbuilding Company's works, Cleveland, Ohio. . . . It is reported that a volcano has burst forth in Great Salt Lake.

In the Greek parliament Prime Minister Delyannis says Greece protests against the bombardment at Crete. . . . The Japanese government is said to have adopted gold as the monetary standard, with coinage of gold and silver at 32½ to 1.

Tuesday, March 2.

The Senate passes the fortifications bill and concurs in amendments to the monetary conference bill. . . . Inaugural arrangements were discussed; Mr. Dalzell defends Supreme Court Justice Shiras against strictures regarding the income-tax case. . . . President Cleveland vetoes the immigration bill. . . . Mr. and Mrs. McKinley dine with President and Mrs. Cleveland at the White House. . . . Secretary Olney sends a partial abstract of correspondence in the Ruiz case. . . . A protest against the seating of William Heitfeld, of Idaho, is filed in the Senate. . . . Directors of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway authorize $50,000,000 100 year 3½ per cent. gold bonds to refund the entire bonded debt of the company. . . . The commission to locate a deep-water harbor in Southern California selects San Pedro. . . . The New York court of appeals sustains the Percy-Gray racing law, and the law legislating New York city police justices out of office. . . . Rev. Dr. G. S. Mallory, editor and proprietor of *The Churchman*, New York, dies.

Turkish gendarmes in Canea, Crete, mutiny and foreign marines silence the trouble; Kandamo and Selino are to be placed under protection of the powers. . . . The judges of the High Court of Justice of the South African Republic protest against the law lately passed by the Volksraad subjecting the decisions of the court to revision by the executive body, and decide to adjourn from March 5 until June, to await the voice of the people.

Wednesday, March 3.

The Senate acts on conference reports and passes several bills without objection. . . . The House passes the immigration bill over the President's veto and considers appropriation bills. . . . Official correspondence concerning the Nicaragua Canal is sent to the Senate. . . . The President approves, among other bills, the army appropriation bill, monetary conference bill, Atlantic and Pacific Railroad bill, and bills to provide aids to navigation, and allow bottling of distilled spirits in bond. . . . Cornelius N. Bliss of New York accepts a place in McKinley's cabinet. . . . The Gold Democrats of Michigan nominate a state ticket at Grand Rapids.

The powers warn Greece to evacuate Crete within six days on pain of compulsion. . . . A damaging gale sweeps over the British isles.

Thursday, March 4.

William McKinley is inaugurated President of the United States with elaborate ceremonies, and delivers his inaugural address; Vice-President Garret A. Hobart takes the oath of office. . . . The Fifty-fourth Congress expires by limitations; the general deficiency appropriation bill fails for lack of agreement, and President Cleveland refuses to sign the sundry civil, Indian, and agricultural appropriation bills. . . . Resolutions of thanks are tendered Vice-President Stevenson and Speaker Reed by the respective houses of Congress. . . . Ex-President

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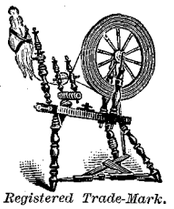

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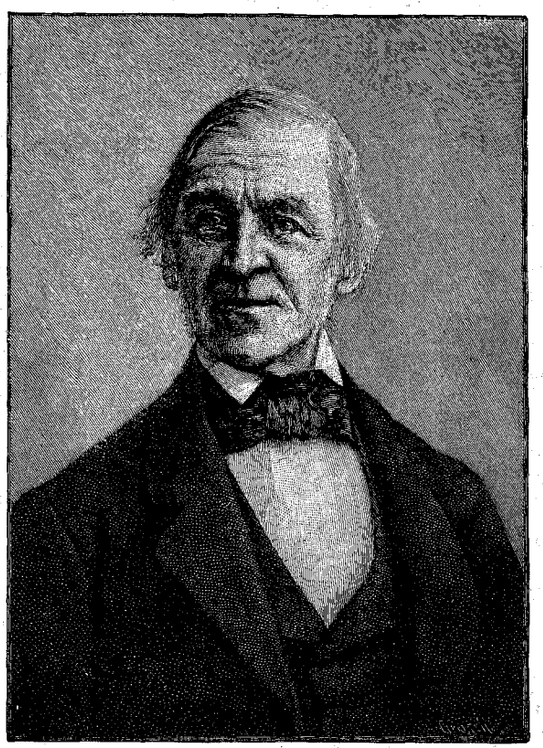
"A PROFESSOR OF BOOKS"—*Emerson*

IN glancing through one of the early volumes of Charles Dudley Warner's "Library of the World's Best Literature," we met, in the Emerson section, an extract from one of the sage's fine pages that ran in this wise:

"Meantime the colleges, whilst they provide us with libraries, furnish no professor of books; and, I think, no chair is so much wanted."

It is doubtful if any phrase could so happily describe at once the function and the achievement of Mr. Warner in his new and great work. He himself is essentially a "professor of books," altho the charm of his work has tended to make us forget his wide and varied learning. And knowing not only books but living writers and critics as well, Mr. Warner has gathered around him as advisers and aids other "professors of books," not men of the Dryasdust school, but, those who possess the same salient charm and graphic power as himself.

The result of this remarkable literary movement has been to provide the great reading public, the busy public of ever scant leisure, with just what Emerson declared more than half a century ago we so much needed, namely, a guide to the best reading.



RALPH WALDO EMERSON

Emerson indeed likens a library of miscellaneous books to a lottery wherein there are a hundred blanks to one prize, and finally exclaims that "some charitable soul, after losing a great deal of time among the false books and alighting upon a few true ones, which made him happy and wise, would do a right act in naming those which have been bridges or ships to carry him safely over dark morasses and barren oceans into the heart of sacred cities into palaces and temples."

This is precisely what Mr. Warner's new library does in the fine, critical articles which preface the masterworks of the greatest writers.

Think what is here accomplished. In the case of Emerson himself, the general voice has proclaimed his two volumes of "Essays" as a requisite for every library. But if we have the wish to go farther and know more of the work of our greatest man of letters, what volume shall we select? There are ten or eleven others to choose from. Looking into Mr. Warner's Library we find that Dr. Richard Garnett of the British Museum, a life-long student and biographer of Emerson, has written a critique that gives us exactly what we wish to know.

Again, take the case of the man who occupies in German life the same place as the Sage of Concord in American life. All told, Goethe's writings comprise seventy compact volumes. Emerson himself, in one of those delightful letters he wrote to Carlyle, tells how, after years of effort, he has "succeeded in getting through thirty-five," and despairs of the other half. But who, even among those who call themselves well read have despatched thirty-five volumes of the great German, or even half or third of thirty-five? Nevertheless we do not like to remain without at least a general and historical view of Goethe's tremendous activity, and, furthermore, if we go beyond "Faust" or "Wilhelm Meister," we are—the most of us—lost in a sea of conjecture as to which of the remaining sixty-eight volumes we shall attack.

How happily has Mr. Warner here come to our relief! He has chosen, to prepare the Goethe section for the Library, no less a scholar than Prof. Edwin Dowden of Dublin, the president of the Goethe Society of England. The assignment was most fitting, as no Englishman since Carlyle is so well versed in all that pertains to the great German, none knows better of his strength and power, none better his shortcomings and his weaknesses. Here we have the distilled essence of his criticism, together with Professor Dowden's choice of what is of paramount and lasting value in the legacy Goethe has left to us.

Professor Evans, of Munich, performs for us a like service with Schiller. Prof. Maurice Francis Egan does the same with Calderon. Prof. Charles Elliot Norton of Harvard with Dante. Prof. Santayana with Cervantes. The historian Lecky with Gibbon. Charlton T. Lewis with Bacon, and so on. Never, it seems to us, was so much talent, such an array of eminent names pressed into service for the production of such compact and pregnant expositions and criticism.

It would be a great mistake, however, to believe that the new Library which Mr. Warner and his associates have prepared has to do with nothing but the "classics." Here, for instance, is Dumas the elder. Who is there that has not fallen a victim to the stirring romances of "The Three Musketeers" and their extensive kin? Many of us, when we have once got into their companionship, hardly know where to stop. But we do not want to be misled into reading an immense number of worthless and mediocre stories that Dumas, in the burst of his fame, was led to palm off as his own, tho they were in reality the work of others. There never was a more delightful "professor of books" than Andrew Lang, and we doubt if there is any one living who could tell us so much as he has told us in the Library of what is interesting and what we wish to know of Dumas.

We cross from the field of romance over into that of poetry, and the first name we chance upon is that of Wordsworth, one of the greatest poets who ever lived—no one questions that. And yet what great poet ever left so much fine wheat mixed with so much chaff? Dr. R. H. Hutton, the editor of the London *Spectator* and one of the sanest and most appreciative of living critics, has chosen for this Library the best of Wordsworth's poetry, and has planned such further journeys through the poet's writings as the reader may wish to take.

And so we might go on. But we think we have made clear to the reader that which struck us so forcibly when we looked into the Emerson section, namely, how finely Mr. Warner has, in his Library, succeeded in satisfying the great want which Emerson there so well voiced—that of a "professor of books." Exactly as the professor of chemistry or physics or astronomy or biology gives his pupils a view of the whole field of his science, the summary of its achievements, its great names and its great works, so Mr. Warner and his associates have given us the distillation not merely of the whole world's literature, in itself a colossal attempt, but in addition its history, biography, and criticism as well. It is only when we grasp its full import that we realize the truly vast and monumental character of the Library. It must assuredly rank as one of the most notable achievements of the century.

That there is a widespread desire among all classes to possess these thirty treasure volumes clearly appears from the number and the character of the letters which are coming from far and near to the Harper's Weekly Club, through which a portion of the first edition is being distributed.

Altho the first edition is the most desirable because printed from the fresh, new plates, the publishers, instead of advancing the price, have actually reduced it nearly half, so as to quickly place a few sets in each community for inspection.

These introductory sets are being distributed through Harper's Weekly Club exclusively, which will close this month, but we have made a reservation of fifty of these sets for LITERARY DIGEST readers, and these sets can be had by making prompt application personally or by letter to the Club at 91 Fifth avenue, New York. Sample pages (and special prices) will be sent on request.

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Cleveland declines an invitation to a dinner in his honor by the New York Chamber of Commerce. . . . Senator Wolcott returns from Europe after a trip in the interest of an international monetary conference. . . . Nine persons are killed by an explosion of gas in a subway in Boston.

King George declares that Greece will not listen to admonitions of the powers; fighting is reported from Cretan towns. . . . Montevideo is declared in a state of siege. . . . Trouble breaks out again in Samoa. . . . Captain-General Weyler returns to Havana; The Spanish cabinet asks extra credit to fit out six more war-ships.

Friday, March 5.

President McKinley's cabinet nominations are confirmed by the Senate. . . . M. A. Hanna is sworn in as Senator Sherman's successor. . . . Ex-Congressman Bellamy Stover of Ohio is appointed first assistant Secretary of State. . . . Major A. T. Wood of Kentucky is appointed successor to United States Senator Blackburn. . . . Heavy floods in the Ohio and Western river valleys are reported. . . . A building-trades strike is authorized in Chicago.

Preparations for a war with Turkey continue on an undiminished scale in Greece; 1,500 Christians are investing Heraklion in Crete. . . . Consul-General Lee telegraphs from Havana that Americans convicted of political offenses in Cuba will be expelled from the island. . . . President Krüger warns the High Court of the South African Republic to conform to the new law passed by the Volksraad.

Saturday, March 6.

The President issues a proclamation calling an extra session of the Fifty-fifth Congress to meet on March 15. . . . The members of President McKinley's cabinet are sworn into office. . . . United States Senatorial appointments: John A. Henderson of Florida to succeed Senator Call; H. W. Corbett of Oregon to succeed Senator Mitchell. . . . Republicans hold a senatorial caucus in Washington. . . . Immense damage is done by floods in the Middle Western States, the loss of property probably amounting to millions of dollars. . . . Joseph A. Iasigi, Turkish consul-general in Boston, is indicted on charges of embezzling upward of $100,000 by the Grand Jury in that city.

Greek warships have been ordered to cruise in the Sporades and the Gulf of Arta; the foreign admirals are drawing up plans for the blockade of the Greek ports. . . . The German Government proposes large naval demands against opposition in the Reichstag.

Sunday, March 7.

President McKinley attends the Metropolitan M. E. church. . . . Ballington Booth's Volunteers of America begin to celebrate the first anniversary of the organization.

It is said that the reply of Greece to the ultimatum of the powers will say that it is impossible to evacuate Crete, as peace is not restored; the Porte assents to the terms of the powers; the powers are not in accord on the precise terms of autonomy for Crete. . . . Cuban insurgents loot towns in Havana and Pinar del Rio.

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Medical Science at last reports a positive cure for Asthma in every form in the wonderful Kola Plant, a new botanical discovery found on the Kongo River, West Africa. Its cures are really marvelous. Rev. J. L. Combs, of Martinsburg, W. Va., writes that it cured him of Asthma of fifty years' standing, and Hon. L. G. Clute, of Greeley, Iowa, testifies that for three years he had to sleep propped up in a chair, being unable to lie down night or day from Asthma. The Kola Plant cured him at once. To make the matter sure, these and hundreds of other cures are sworn to before a notary public. To prove to you beyond doubt its wonderful curative power, the Kola Importing Company, No. 1164 Broadway, New York, will send a large case of the Kola Compound free by mail to every reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who suffers from any form of Asthma. All they ask in return is that when cured yourself you will tell your neighbors about it. Send your name and address on a postal card, and they will send you a large case by mail free. It costs you nothing, and you should surely try it.

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THE LUNGS

And the Diseases Which Affect Them.

From Dr. Hunter's Lectures.

The lungs are the great vital center of the body, on which all the other organs and functions of the human system mainly depend for health. They make the new blood out of the food eaten, by which we grow and maintain our strength. They purify the old blood by removing from it dead elements, which otherwise would produce disease. They strengthen the heart and enable it to distribute nutrition throughout the system. They give to the brain the strength and activity required to perform every mental function. They give tone to the nervous system and activity and power to every organ of the body.

The stomach is little more than a mill in which our food is ground, dissolved, and separated so that the nutritious parts can be sucked up by the lymphatics and carried as a white liquid, chyle, to the lungs, which endow it with life, change its, color and transform it into blood. From the lungs it is sent to the heart, which, as a force pump, distributes it to every organ and tissue which compose our bodies.

Until the lungs have changed our food into blood and endowed it with life it is dead matter that has no power to repair the waste of the body. The change from CHYLE TO BLOOD takes place in the capillaries of the lungs, and is CAUSED BY RESPIRATION. The amount that can be so transformed depends on the QUANTITY and PURITY of air we breathe. If the breathing is obstructed by any local disease of the air-passages, or rendered defective by the impurity of the air itself, the body immediately shows its effects, the face becomes pale, the features sharp, and the appetite poor.

The volume of air we are able to take at a breath regulates, to the weight of a grain, the quantity of food that can be assimilated and made into blood. People with small lungs are always

THIN AND WEAK,

because the small volume of air they breathe can only transform a small quantity of food into blood. They may enjoy comfortable health until some local disease occurs to obstruct the tubes and diminish the freedom of their breathing. Whenever this occurs they fall into a decline and their flesh and strength begin to waste away.

A man with large lungs is naturally strong and robust because he breathes a large volume of air and can transform a large quantity of food into blood. If, however, he gets an attack of congestion of the lungs which results in bronchitis, and the tubes become obstructed by phlegm and narrowed by the swelling of their internal lining, shortening his breath, from that moment his flesh and strength begin to diminish, his cheeks to grow pallid, and every vital function of his body becomes weak.

Even tho no local disease occurs to diminish the volume of air taken in at a breath, the habitual breathing of close, confined air, which has already been breathed by others and insufficiently renewed by fresh air, as in overcrowded rooms and factories, the same result follows, because such air, altho sufficient in volume, is deficient in the elements of purification required to maintain health. This is why persons of feeble breathing power so often faint in church and public lecture halls and other crowded assemblies.

If these

SCIENTIFIC TRUTHS

were generally understood by the people and acted upon, lung diseases would be far less prevalent and less dreaded, because better understood and more intelligently cared for.

Every condition which injures our breathing can be avoided or remedied by proper care or proper treatment. When local disease establishes itself in the air-passages and tubes of the lungs it can be arrested and removed by medicating the air which the patient breathes with remedies adapted to the form and stage of the disease, but none of them can be cured by sending local remedies on a roundabout through the stomach and general system. Such treatment is irrational, false in theory, and fatal in practise in all lung complaints.

There is no such thing as consumption inherited or set set up in healthy lungs. It is only after the lungs have become inflamed and the epithelium which shields their mucous surfaces destroyed by bronchial or catarrhal disease, exposing a raw surface in the lungs, that the tubercle bacilli can attack them and set up the disease. As every form of bronchial and catarrhal disease of the lungs can be uprooted and radically cured by antiseptic air inhalations every case of consumption can be prevented by this treatment.

NOTE.—Dr. Hunter has published his views in a little book which tells all about the lungs and their diseases—how Consumption is prevented, and the improvements in medical science by which it, Catarrh, Bronchitis, Asthma and other lung complaints are now successfully treated and radically cured. All readers of THE LITERARY DIGEST who are afflicted and anxious about their lungs or interested in the subject will receive a copy free by addressing

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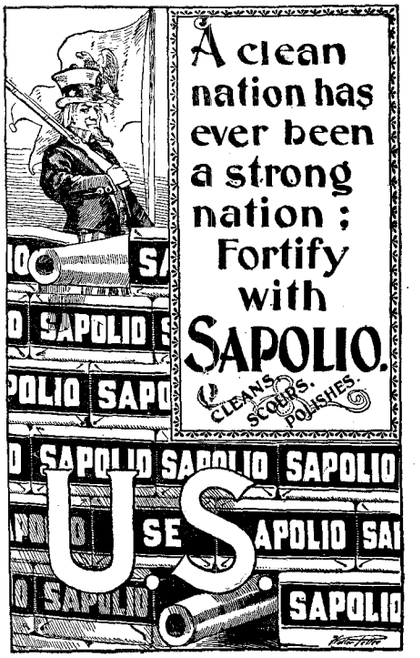

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